

**A Village Board Work Session Meeting was held on Monday, March 25, 2024 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 and Trustee Vernon Coleman.**

**ALSO PRESENT:**

**Village Clerk Christine Shenkman, Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) Superintendent Christopher Martino and Village Police Chief Brian Zaccaro.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Audience member Vincent Lang of 9 Plymouth Rock Court requested a total vote count from the Village Election held on Tuesday, March 19.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – DISCUSSION:**

**AID INCENTIVES FOR MUNICIPALITIES (AIM) WASHINGTONVILLE:**

**Mayor DeVinko explained the approximate Village of Washingtonville share of the Aid Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) Program through the State of New York on an annual basis is \$13,070.00. For many years this amount has remained the same. The New York State Senate is proposing an increase in the State Executive Budget by \$210 million. It has been stated that \$250,000 is to be earmarked for the establishment of an AIM Design Task Force, and to redesign the formula. The proposed increase in AIM is \$100,000,000.**

**UPDATE REGARDING DEFICIT FINANCING – EXTENSION UNTIL JUNE 2025:**

**Mayor DeVinko stated a new Senate Bill Number 8725 is being drafted to the New York State Assembly and New York State Senate to provide an extension of permanent deficit financing until June 2025. The Mayor will provide an update when one is available.**

**SUBMITTAL OF NEW YORK STATE - ARCHIVAL GRANT - \$75,000:**

**The Village of Washingtonville has applied for an Archival Grant in the amount of \$75,000 to assist with the tremendous amount of paperwork on the upper level of Village Hall.**

**RECEIPT OF GRANT MONEY - \$100,000 - ROADWORK ON EMERSON DRIVE AND SEACORD LANE:**

**The Village of Washingtonville has received funds in the amount of \$100,000 for roadwork that was done on Emerson Drive and Seacord Lane. These funds can be**

**RECEIPT OF GRANT MONEY - \$100,000 - ROADWORK ON EMERSON DRIVE AND SEACORD LANE – (CONTINUED):**

utilized for future Village projects. The Village is waiting for New York State C.H.I.P.S. funding in the amount of \$325,000, and once it is received decisions will be made on which projects will commence.

**UPDATE REGARDING E.F.C. FUNDING – THE VILLAGE IS STILL WORKING ON COMPLETION OF MWBE REPORTS FOR OLYMPIC AND KINGS CONSTRUCTION:**

Mayor DeVinko has submitted additional paperwork to New York State – Environmental Facilities Corporation (N.Y.S. – E.F.C.) and is waiting to receive disbursement in the approximate amount of \$173,167.33. The Mayor is hoping to receive these funds by March 21. Further information will be provided once it is available. Mayor DeVinko is still working on completion of MWBE Reports for Olympic Electric and Kings Construction which were not filed by the previous Administration.

**TREE PLANTING DONATIONS – AHERN BOULEVARD:**

The Mayor reported the Village is proposing to plant trees along Ahern Boulevard donated by individuals or groups. A flyer will be posted on the Village Website and Village Facebook page for further details. The cost of each tree will be approximately between \$275.00 - \$300.00. The Mayor will keep residents posted regarding this matter.

**VETERANS BANNER DISPLAY:**

The Veterans Banner Display application is located on the Village Website and Village Facebook page. One (1) banner per application is allowed, and please scan the picture due to quality purposes. The approximate cost of the banner would be \$175.00 - \$200.00 depending on quantity ordered. The Village would like to have the banners in place by Memorial Day.

**IRRIGATION WATER METERS:**

Deputy Mayor Walski indicated residents have approached the Village regarding irrigation meters which are popular in the South. The purchase price of said meter and plumbing costs would be at the homeowners expense. Residents would only be billed for water usage. There would be no other fees. Village Code would have to be amended to allow said meter.

**BANK OF NEW YORK BUILDING STATUS:**

Mayor DeVinko reported that Bank of America has moved out of the Village of Washingtonville. The Mayor will contact Corporate Bank Officials to find out what their plans are for the building. Tax records reflect Bank of America owns said building.

**UPDATE - BAGPIPES AND BONNETS CELEBRATION:**

Bagpipes and Bonnets Celebration was held on Sunday, March 24 from 12:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. at L. Vernon Allen Park. The event date was moved from Saturday to Sunday due to weather conditions. Trustee Jacaruso stated it was extremely

**UPDATE - BAGPIPES AND BONNETS CELEBRATION – (CONTINUED):**

“eggciting” and was a great day. The children had a ton of fun, and the event was well organized. The Washingtonville Events Committee did an excellent job. This event was also known as “Wabbitville.” During the month of April the Events Committee will host a Village-wide Garage Sale with music. In addition, the Village Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) has been building great picnic tables for the Village Parks, and downtown Village area.

**RESOLUTIONS:****215 - RESOLUTION – ORANGE COUNTY TOURISM GRANT:**

Trustee Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize the submittal of the Orange County Tourism Grant in the amount of \$4,999.00 to the County of Orange. The funds will be utilized to assist in advertising for the Village Fourth of July Fireworks Display; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**216 – RESOLUTION – PUBLIC ASSEMBLY PERMIT - WASHINGTONVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP 5 - K RUN - WALK:**

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to approve a Public Assembly Permit for the Washingtonville Central School District Scholarship 5K Run – Walk to be held on Saturday, April 6 from 10:00 A.M. until 11:30 A.M; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**217 – RESOLUTION – POLICE DEPARTMENT AED DEFIBRILLATORS:**

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walski and adopted to declare two (2) Police Department AED Defibrillators surplus, and of no value to the Village of Washingtonville due to the age of equipment; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**218 – RESOLUTION – PURCHASE OF FOUR DELL LAPTOPS FOR THE VILLAGE BOARD:**

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walski and adopted to authorize the purchase of four (4) Dell Laptops for the Village Board from Hudson Valley IT Services, LLC at a total cost of \$1,938.60; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**219 – RESOLUTION – BEST CO FENCE OF ORANGE COUNTY – INSTALLATION OF FENCE AND GATES FOR PICKLEBALL COURTS:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to approve Best Co Fence of Orange County (lowest price quotation) to install a fence and gates for the Pickleball Courts located at L. Vernon Allen Park at a cost not to exceed \$19,839.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**(A)220 – RESOLUTION – PUBLIC ASSEMBLY PERMIT - WASHINGTONVILLE EVENTS COMMITTEE - VILLAGE WIDE YARD SALE AND BUSINESS SIDEWALK SALE:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Jacaruso and adopted to approve a Public Assembly Permit for the Washingtonville Events Committee to host a Village Wide Yard Sale - Business Sidewalk Sales on Saturday, April 20 at 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. in E.J. McLaughlin Square; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**221 – RESOLUTION – MILLENNIUM STRATEGIES AND THE VILLAGE OF WASHINGTONVILLE – SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICATIONS:**

Deputy Mayor Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Jacaruso and adopted to authorize Mayor Thomas DeVinko to sign the Agreements between Millennium Strategies and the Village of Washingtonville regarding preparation and submittal of a Grant application on behalf of the Village through the New York State Empire State Development – Restore New York Initiative Grant Program at a rate of \$150.00 per hour for an amount not to exceed \$5,400.00; and submittal of a Grant application on behalf of the Village through the T-Mobile Hometown Grant Program at a rate of \$150.00 per hour for an amount not to exceed \$2,250.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**222 – RESOLUTION – FACILITY USE REQUEST FORM - HUDSON VALLEY HOT RODS:**

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walski and adopted to approve a Facility Use Request form for Hudson Valley Hot Rods Friday Night Car Cruise to be held on Monday, April 19 - September 27, from 5:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. at Veterans Memorial Park; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**223 – RESOLUTION – SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING – LOCAL LAW ENTITLED “PLANNING BOARD AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS”:**

Trustee Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to schedule a Public Hearing on April 15, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. regarding the adoption of a Local Law enacting Chapter 69 of the Code of the Village of Washingtonville “Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals”, and amending Chapter 315 (Zoning) of the Village Code; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**224 – RESOLUTION – SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING – LOCAL LAW ENTITLED “ADOPTION OF A LOCAL LAW ADDING CHAPTER 11 OF THE VILLAGE CODE”:**

Trustee Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walski and adopted to schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, April 15, 2024 at 7:05 P.M. regarding the adoption of a Local Law adding Chapter 11 of the Village Code (Consultant Fees); said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

**225 – RESOLUTION - BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS AS NECESSARY TO AFFECT NECESSARY TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND TO PAY WARRANTS:**

Deputy Mayor Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to approve Budget Transfers and amendments as necessary to affect necessary

**225 – RESOLUTION - BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS AS NECESSARY TO AFFECT NECESSARY TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND TO PAY WARRANTS – (CONTINUED):**

**transfer of funds and to pay Warrants; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Audience member Trish Thorton questioned will the Village Hall be open to view the Clovewood Development Public Hearing on April 3 from 1:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. Mayor DeVinko confirmed the Village Hall will be accessible to view the Public Comment Hearing.**

**Ms. Thorton commented the Bagpipes and Bonnets event was awesome. The numbers were smaller than prior years, however the children had fun and many great pictures were taken showcasing the event. Mayor DeVinko expressed thanks to Ms. Thorton for her hard work and dedicated efforts with regard to public relations. The Village of Washingtonville appreciates all the Committee has done.**

**Audience member Vincent Lang questioned is the Village still selling water to Spindler, and Mayor DeVinko responded yes. Mr. Lang expressed his concerns that the cost of the water sold should be increased or the Village should halt sales.**

**Mayor DeVinko noted the Board has discussed increasing water rates. The Firemens Memorial Park well has been approved and will go online after an official letter from New York State Department of Health (N.Y.S. – D.O.H.) is received by the Village of Washingtonville. This well can yield sixty (60) gallons per minute. The Highgrove Development well is in the planning process. The Village is not trying to sell water every day. It is a balance, and the Village has no control over where the water is being delivered.**

**An audience member questioned did the Village ever have a Code Enforcement Officer, and Trustee Jacaruso indicated the Building Inspector is the Code Enforcement Officer. The resident expressed his concerns over the condition of the Village of Washingtonville, and feels it has declined over the years. There are multiple cars unregistered, fences falling down, blue tarps on roofs and garbage bins out seven (7) days a week. Residents are not following the rules. Penalties should be issued and Laws enforced. The Donate a Tree Program is a great idea, however, people cannot walk on the green areas because it is full of dog waste. There are Codes on the books that are not being enforced, and this would generate Revenue for the Village.**

**A resident questioned is there a limit regarding pick-up of bulk items.**

**Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) Superintendent Christopher Martino stated the Village water meters will start to be read in the beginning of May.**

**Deputy Mayor Walski noted there is a possibility of some brown water due to fire hydrant flushing.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Trustee Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.**

**RESUMPTION OF MEETING:**

**Deputy Mayor Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Jacaruso 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:**

**Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to adjourn the March 25, 2024 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**

**T.S.:**

**M.S.**