

A Village Board Work Session Meeting was held on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, New York.

PRESENT:

Mayor Thomas DeVinko, Deputy Mayor Donna Jacaruso, Trustee Susan Walski, Trustee Steve Presser and Trustee Vernon Coleman.

ALSO PRESENT:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Village resident Vinny Lang of 9 Plymouth Rock Court is requesting an update from the previous Village Board meeting regarding water deliveries from Spindler Bulk. Mr. Lang indicated the Village Board was asked to stop any third-party water deliveries. Mayor DeVinko confirmed Spindler Bulk is the Vendor who delivers water to South Blooming Grove, and the Village Board has discussed and decided that the Village of Washingtonville will continue as is because projects are being completed with this revenue. Mr. Lang questioned how much funds does the Village earn from water delivery, and Mayor DeVinko replied in 2023 it was approximately \$100,000. Currently, the Village has earned \$50,000. Vinny Lang expressed his unhappiness with the Village Board's decision.

Mayor DeVinko advised Mr. Lang to attend the Village of South Blooming Grove Board Meetings, and to share his concerns and questions also with their Village Board.

Village resident Paul Lang of 10 Patriot Lane expressed his concerns regarding the water delivery status in the Village. Mayor DeVinko noted Village water has left this Village prior to the past two (2) years when Mr. Lang was also on the Village Board. The Village of Washingtonville was also selling water to the Village of South Blooming Grove during those periods.

Mayor DeVinko stated the Village of Washingtonville does not have a Contract with Spindler Bulk. The Village Board is doing our due diligence to help the Village without asking residents to pay for everything. We are utilizing these funds to buy the Badger Water System to convert the Village into a twenty-first century system. Resident Lang indicated he would be happy to pay more if the water was kept in the Village, and Mayor DeVinko noted not all residents can afford to cover these expenses themselves.

Resident Vinny Lang requested the Village Board triple the rates for Spindler Bulk.

Michael Graziano, resident of 3 Lark Street questioned the Village Board if the Village has enough wells to cover the water usage by this system. Mayor DeVinko indicated the water comes and goes out of the wells. If there is no rain and the wells go to a lower level, then the Village discontinues selling of water. Two (2) weeks ago the well located at Highgrove Development was placed online for use, and sixty (60) gallons per minute is being put into the Village water system. There

PUBLIC COMMENT – (CONTINUED):

are two (2) back-up wells on Spindler Bulk property that the Village has access to if needed.

Residents questioned can the Village cease the sale of water this summer during a certain hot period, and Mayor DeVinko responded yes. The wells are measured every day.

Village resident Nancy Donaldson of 4 Emerson Drive requested is there an update regarding the Pickleball Court, and Mayor DeVinko explained the exterior fence has been installed and the inside fences are waiting on the Paint Company to put their finishing touches. Nets are in hand and posts have been drilled.

Resident Sean Hegarty of 4 Belvoir Drive asked what is the cost per hour per Village employee when they are out reading the water meters, and was the floodway completed? Mayor DeVinko stated one side of the floodway was done. Mr. Hegarty stated he does not feel the problem is being corrected, and everything in the Village is half done.

Audience member Paul Lang of 10 Patriot Lang indicated I do not recall hearing the figures regarding water from previous meetings. Mayor DeVinko stated the Minutes are online that you can review. Mr. Lang commented concerning the water bills is there a number on how much the Village collected from unpaid water bills, and Trustee Walski replied it can be presented at the next meeting.

Mr. Lang expressed at the School Board Meeting the Superintendent was asked about School water bills, and does the School pay them on time. Does the Village charge a penalty, and Trustee Walski indicated yes two percent (2%) like everyone else.

Mayor DeVinko explained to Resident Paul Lang the rate for water to Spindler is \$6.00 per one-hundred (100) gallons which is the same price as when you Mr. Lang were on the previous Village Board.

The Village Board explained in addition to Spindler Bulk the Town of Blooming Grove takes water out of the village, and they also pay to do so. Resident Lang questioned does Tam take water? Mayor DeVinko indicated at times in 2023. If there is a film shooting on location it is taken from the Village. A power washing business also takes water at times.

Resident Diane Mack of 25 Capital Drive asked the following questions:

- 1) When will the Pickleball Courts be ready?

Mayor DeVinko responded the original painter selected had to take personal leave so the Village is looking for another painter.

- 2) Will the Court be monitored and are there rules, regulations and signage in place?

Mayor DeVinko explained the Court will be locked in the evenings and open at 7:00 A.M. Presently the Court will be utilized as a day Court because lights are not functional.

- 3) When will the lines on Ahern Boulevard be completed?
Residents are concerned with vehicles driving too fast. Can the Village enforce the Law? Vehicles are constantly driving fast on Puritan Lane and Capital Drive. Children could be hurt.
Please have the Police Department watch the stop signs.

Mayor DeVinko stated work regarding line painting is currently being scheduled, and please call and let the Police Department know your concerns regarding traffic matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT – (CONTINUED):

- 4) The potholes on Route 208 and Route 94 are causing a dangerous situation as well as the ones on Route 94 and Brotherhood Plaza Drive intersection. When will they be taken care of?

Mayor DeVinko indicated these are questions for the State of New York since Route 94 and Route 208 are State roads. The Village has sent requests to the State regarding this matter, and we will continue to send additional e-mails.

- 6) What were the Election results for the Village Trustees.

Mayor DeVinko indicated he will provide the numbers to Ms. Mack.

Resident Vinny Lang stated what are the Codes regarding signs in the village. There are so many properties in the Village that look horrible. Garbage is in the yards, and blue tarps are on the houses. The Village Code needs to be enforced.

A resident expressed concerns that the grass needs to be cut at 62 East Main Street, and requested Mayor DeVinko to please keep the residents updated on the status of all homes needed to be cut. The Mayor replied "there is a process the Village must follow", and the Attorney stated the Village Building Inspector could and should hand out Notice of Appearances on the properties in questions.

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso commented the Village Board has sent notices regarding a meeting to the business owners. There will be an open discussion concerning signage, flags and banners in the Village. Residents questioned why are the business owners not taking the responsibility to clean up their areas, and this should be enforced so it is a clean, welcoming area.

A resident noted that the Department of Public Works did a great job at the Village Square.

An audience member questioned was new equipment and trucks purchased for the Department of Public Works, and the Mayor explained new lettering and logos were added to the trucks to make them identifiable due to the poor quality of the former ones.

DISCUSSION:

UPDATE REGARDING ROAD PROJECTS – LINCOLN DRIVE AND NORTH STREET:

Department of Public Works Superintendent Christopher Martino and Village Engineer James Farr are working on plans regarding the Lincoln Drive and North Street drainage projects.

FLOWER POT PLANTINGS:

Planting of the Village flower pots will take place on Saturday, May 18. All individuals and organizations interested in volunteering please meet at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville at 8:30 A.M. There are approximately thirty (30) flower pots to be planted.

VILLAGE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE:

The Village Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 27 at 10:00 A.M. Line-up is at 9:00 A.M. at Washingtonville Senior High School. The Parade will be the same format and route as previous years.

DONATE A TREE PROGRAM:

On Wednesday, May 15 the Girl Scouts planted the first tree on Ahern Boulevard and earned a Badge as part of the Village Donate A Tree Program. On Saturday, June 1 the Village will plant donated trees from Newcastle Drive to Winchester Way. Applications to be part of this ongoing program and beautify the area are available at Village Hall. To date, the Village has ten (10) applications for trees.

UPDATE – VETERANS BANNER PROGRAM:

Currently there are approximately thirteen (13) Veterans Banners to be ordered with a projected date of installation prior to the Village Memorial Day Parade. The current Banner price is \$211.00 per banner, and the order must be in by Friday, May 10.

RECEIPT OF ORANGE COUNTY TOURISM GRANT:

The Village of Washingtonville will be awarded an Orange County Tourism Grant in the amount of \$4,999.00.

RECEIPT OF ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATORS GRANT:

The Village of Washingtonville will be awarded an Orange County Legislators Grant in the amount of \$4,999.00.

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING – MAYOR DEVINKO:

QUESTIONS FROM SEAN HEGARTY – 4 BELVOIR DRIVE:

Retention Pond - Questions were previously answered.

Status of Woodfield Skateboard Park – The Village has spoken with the original equipment manufacturer of the Skateboard Park and the equipment the Village has is no longer made. The manufacturer will let the Village know if refurbished parts are available.

Separate Water Meters – Trustee Walski explained the Village water Codes are in the process of being revised and hopefully by June a Public Hearing can be set to install irrigation meters.

Hydro-Electric Plant – Salisbury Mills – The Mayor is attempting to attain regulation information through the New York State Department that manages this dam.

New York State Comptrollers Office – Villages Fiscal Stress – The Village Audits are still in the process of being conducted, and the Village Court has not been audited since 2014.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING T.D. BANK:

Mayor DeVinko announced the Washingtonville branch of T.D. Bank will be closing effective July 12, 2024 at which point the building will be sold. T.D. Bank is looking for ideas for a business that could move into this location. In addition, the Bank of America building is up for sale.

BANK OF GREENE COUNTY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION - \$500.00 GRANT:

The Village was awarded Grant funds which will be utilized to purchase a flashing School crossing sign at Taft Elementary School.

ORANGE COUNTY MOBILE D.M.V. UNIT:

The Mobile Unit of the Department of Motor Vehicles will be at the Village Hall parking lot at 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville on Tuesday, May 7 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.

RESOLUTIONS:

24 – 0035 – RESOLUTION – PURCHASE OF A TRAILER – VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize the purchase of a seven foot by eighteen-foot tube top trailer from Paul Congelosi trailer sales at a cost not to exceed \$5,316.00 for the Village Police Department; reimbursement for this purchase will be refunded by the Police Department UTV SAM Grant; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0036 – RESOLUTION – PURCHASE OF A STORAGE CONTAINER - VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize the purchase of a twenty (20) foot Storage Container from Giant Lock Box at a cost not to exceed \$3,225.00 for the Village Police Department; reimbursement for this purchase will be refunded by the Police Department UTV SAM Grant; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0037 – RESOLUTION –SERVICE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT – VILLAGE GENERATORS:

Trustee Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize the approval of an annual Service Maintenance Agreement from Gentech LTD for six (6) Village Generators at a cost not to exceed \$3,240.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0038 – RESOLUTION – SURPLUS OF BRASS WATER METERS – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to declare surplus, and of no value to the Village of Washingtonville brass water meters at the Department of Public Works; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0039 – RESOLUTION – SOLICITORS LICENSE – ICE CREAM TRUCK:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jacaruso and adopted to authorize approval of a Solicitors License to Francis Ellis for distribution of an Ice

24 – 0039 – RESOLUTION – SOLICITORS LICENSE – ICE CREAM TRUCK – (CONTINUED):

Cream Truck throughout the Village of Washingtonville based on receipt of a Certificate of Insurance; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0040 – RESOLUTION – FACILITY USE FORM - HUDSON VALLEY HAWKS BASEBALL GAMES AND PRACTICE:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize the approval of a Facility Use Form for Hudson Valley Hawks Baseball games and practice on Sundays from May 5 through August 31, 8:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0041 – RESOLUTION – BADGER ORION CELLULAR SOFTWARE SYSTEM AND WATER METERS:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to authorize the purchase of a Badger Orion Cellular Software System and meters not to exceed \$17,371.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0042 – RESOLUTION - EMPLOYMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS LABORER:

Trustee Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize the employment of Mark Morel as a Department of Public Works Laborer commencing this date, May 6, 2024, at an hourly salary of \$25.74; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0043 – RESOLUTION – SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING - DISSOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE VOLUNTEER ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (A.R.B.):

Deputy Mayor Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to schedule a Public Hearing regarding dissolution of the Village volunteer Architectural Review Board (A.R.B.) to be held on Monday, June 3, 2024; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0044 – RESOLUTION – PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ADOPTION OF A LOCAL LAW TO EXTEND FOR SIX (6) MONTHS THE MORATORIUM PROHIBITING THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CERTAIN LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS IN THE VILLAGE OF WASHINGTONVILLE:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to schedule a Public Hearing regarding adoption of a Local Law to extend for six (6) months, the Moratorium prohibiting the review and approval of certain land development applications in the Village of Washingtonville; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0045 - RESOLUTION –BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS:

Trustee Walksi 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Paul Lang of 10 Patriot Lane stated on April 15, 2024 the Village Board held a Work Session Meeting. The next day there was an Executive Board meeting held on April 16, 2024, but it was not posted on the Village Calendar. Mr. Lang further questioned is there an update regarding filling the Village Manager position. Mayor DeVinko responded at this point due to Budgetary issues discussion regarding this matter is on hold.

24 – 0046 - EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski 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.

24 – 0047 - 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.

24 - 0048 – RESOLUTION - ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to adjourn the May 6, 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