

A Village Board Work Session Meeting was held on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, New York.

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Village Police Chief Brian Zaccaro and 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 HEARING - 7:00 P.M.:

RESOLUTION – “ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NUMBER 5 ENTITLED EXTENDING A MORATORIUM PROHIBITING THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CERTAIN LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS IN THE VILLAGE OF WASHINGTONVILLE FOR SIX MONTHS”:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to open the Public Hearing regarding adoption of Local Law Number 5 entitled “Extending a Moratorium Prohibiting the Review and Approval of Certain Land Development Applications in the Village of Washingtonville for Six Months”.

Mayor DeVinko explained this Local Law would extend for six (6) months the moratorium prohibiting the review and approval of certain land development applications in the Village of Washingtonville.

The Mayor indicated the Village Board will entertain audience comment:

There being no comment:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to close the Public Hearing regarding the aforesated Local Law; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

PUBLIC COMMENT: AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Resident Paul Lang questioned how many Veterans Banner applications has the Village sold, where will they be hung, and does the Village have permits? Mayor DeVinko indicated approximately twenty-five (25) Flags will be placed on telephone poles opposite flag poles, and the Village does have permits. A call took place with the Village Orange and Rockland Utilities Inc. Representative who gave approval for the Banners to be hung.

Mr. Lang commented will the Kiwanis Flags for Heroes Program be ongoing, and will the signage remain in place for this Program on Ahern Boulevard and Route 94 because it could be a distraction for drivers. Mayor DeVinko expressed thanks to Mr. Lang for his comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DISCUSSION:

LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY GRANT – POLICE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT:

Mayor DeVinko announced the Village of Washingtonville will receive a Grant in the amount of \$99,500.00, and expressed thanks to Chief Zaccaro for his diligent efforts in obtaining this Grant. Chief Zaccaro stated the funding will be utilized for cameras at Firemens Memorial Park, Police Vehicle Computer System, Surveillance Cameras and a License Plate Reader.

UPDATE REGARDING VETERANS BANNER PROGRAM:

The Mayor reported that the Veterans Banner Program will be ongoing, and the cost presently is approximately \$200.00 per Banner.

DONATE A TREE PROGRAM:

Mayor DeVinko expressed thanks to the Department of Public Works (D.P.W.), and Girl Scout Troop 475 for their dedicated efforts in planting the first tree on Ahern Boulevard on Wednesday, May 15. Additional tree planting will take place on Saturday, June 1 by the Village, and further planting will occur in the Fall. Currently, each tree is approximately \$174.00.

COMMUNITY FLOWER POT PLANTING:

The Mayor reported on Saturday, May 18 volunteers met at Village Hall at 8:30 A.M. regarding the Community Flower Pot Planting. There was not a large turnout due to various activities occurring but the Mayor expressed thanks to all in attendance. Thirty (30) planters were filled which will enhance the beauty of the village.

VILLAGE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE:

The Village Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 27 at 10:00 A.M. Lineup begins at Washingtonville High School at 9:30 A.M. The following is a list of events taking place on Memorial Day:

Memorial Day Ceremonies:

8:00 A.M. – St. Mary's Cemetery

8:30 A.M. – Washingtonville Presbyterian Ceremony

9:00 A.M. – Veterans of Foreign Wars (.V.F.W.) Memorial Park – Route 94 across from Washingtonville Pharmacy

AUDIT FINANCIAL UPDATE:

The Auditors will attend a Village Board Meeting in June to provide an Audit Financial update.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DISCUSSION – (CONTINUED):

RENEWAL OF METLIFE INSURANCE:

Mayor DeVinko stated the Village of Washingtonville has renewed the full time employee Metlife Life Insurance Policy.

UPDATE ON MARCH 2024 VILLAGE ELECTION RESULTS:

Voting results for the March 2024 Village Election were as follows: Judge Joseph McKay, 187 Votes; Trustee Steve Presser, 183 Votes; Trustee Vernon Coleman, 186 Votes.

UPDATE ON POND – NEW YORK STATE – DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION – (D.E.C.) REGULATIONS:

Mayor DeVinko explained if the Village wishes to conduct any type of work on Village ponds then a New York State – Department of Environmental Conservation – (N.Y. S. - D.E.C.) Permit would be required.

KIWANIS CLUB – FLAGS FOR HERO'S AT 9-11 MEMORIAL PARK:

On behalf of the Village Board the Mayor expressed thanks to the Kiwanis Club for their creation of the Flags for Heroes Program displayed at Firemens Memorial Park.

RESOLUTIONS:

24 – 0055 – RESOLUTION – TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW NUMBER 5 ENTITLED "EXTENDING A MORATORIUM PROHIBITING THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CERTAIN LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS IN THE VILLAGE OF WASHINGTONVILLE FOR SIX MONTHS.":

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to authorize the adoption of Local Law Number 5 entitled "Extending a Moratorium Prohibiting the Review and Approval of Certain Land Development Applications in the Village of Washingtonville for Six () Months"; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

A Meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Washingtonville, New York was convened on May 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.:

The following Resolution was duly offered and seconded as above to wit:

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Washingtonville, New York ("Village Board") from time to time reviews its laws, rules and regulations to be certain the same are consistent with all current lawful practices as well as best practices to protect the health, safety and welfare of Village residents; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board previously adopted a moratorium prohibiting the review and approval of certain land development applications ("Moratorium") in the

RESOLUTIONS – (CONTINUED):

24 – 0055 – RESOLUTION – TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW NUMBER 5 ENTITLED
“EXTENDING A MORATORIUM PROHIBITING THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF
CERTAIN LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS IN THE VILLAGE OF
WASHINGTONVILLE FOR SIX MONTHS” – (CONTINUED):

Village of Washingtonville by Local Law 1 of 2022 and extended such Moratorium by Local Law 8 of 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board desires to adopt a Local Law further extending the Moratorium for an additional six months; and

WHEREAS, such Introductory Local Law was introduced before the Village Board on May 20, 2024; and

WHEREAS, upon notice duly published and posted, a Public Hearing was held on said Local Law on May 20, 2024 wherein public discussion was heard concerning the merits of said Local Law and all persons were afforded an opportunity to be heard and the Village Board declared the Public Hearing closed.

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

- Section 1.

All “WHEREAS” paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as though set forth in full.
- Section 2.

The Village Board hereby adopts Local Law Number 5 entitled “A Local Extending a Moratorium Prohibiting the Review and Approval of Certain Land Development Applications in the Village of Washingtonville for Six Months” in the form presented to the Village Board.
- Section 3.

The Village Clerk is hereby directed to enter said Local Law into the minutes of this meeting and in the Local Law book of the Village of Washingtonville, and to give due notice of the adoption of said Local Law by filing the Local Law in the Office of the Secretary of State in the State of New York.
- Section 4.

The Village Clerk and any other Village officer, employee or consultant as directed by the Mayor shall take any and all actions necessary to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.
- Section 5.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately and such Local Law shall be effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mayor Thomas DeVinko	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Deputy Mayor Donna Jacaruso	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Susan Walski	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Steve Presser	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Vernon Coleman	[X]	[]	[]	[]

The Resolution was thereupon duly adopted.

RESOLUTIONS – (CONTINUED):**24 – 0056 – RESOLUTION - STEVEN N. MOGEL - SPECIAL COUNSEL AND APPROVE RETAINER AGREEMENT:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to appoint Steven N. Mogel as Special Counsel for the Village of Washingtonville, and to approve the Retainer Agreement at a rate of \$250.00 per hour with no charge for travel time; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0057 – RESOLUTION- ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS - NORTH STREET DRAINAGE PROJECT:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize the Village of Washingtonville to advertise for Bids for the North Street Drainage Project; Bids will be received by the Village and publicly opened at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 6, 2024; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0058 – RESOLUTION - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS – WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize the Village of Washingtonville to advertise for Bids for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Building Roof Replacement Project; Bids will be received by the Village and publicly opened at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 6, 2024; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0059 – RESOLUTION – EMPLOYMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS LABORER:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to authorize the employment of Donald Verdin as a Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) Laborer commencing May 16, 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 – 0060 - RESOLUTION – PROMOTION OF KARL BURKE AND JOHN PAGE - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - WORKING LEADERS:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to authorize the promotion of Karl Burke and John Page to the Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) Working Leader positions effective Monday, May 20, 2024; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0061 – RESOLUTION – NEGOTIATIONS WITH M & R ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION - VILLAGE ELECTRIC AND GAS RATES:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize negotiations with M & R Energy Resources Corporation regarding the

RESOLUTIONS – (CONTINUED):

24 – 0061 – RESOLUTION – NEGOTIATIONS WITH M & R ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION - VILLAGE ELECTRIC AND GAS RATES – (CONTINUED):

Village Electric and Gas rates; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

24 – 0062 – RESOLUTION – TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS:

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

A resident from Washington Boulevard questioned what is the starting salary for a Village Police Officer, and Chief Zaccaro explained when an Officer is employed from the Academy the salary is \$53,000. A higher salary may be implemented based upon experience..

An audience member asked how many Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) employees are presently employed, and the Mayor responded twelve (12) employees total including the Superintendent.

Resident Diane Mack of 25 Capital Drive thanked the Village Board and D.P.W. for repairing potholes in the Village. Ms. Mack also stated the potted plants look lovely, and when will the Pickleball Courts be completed?

Ms. Mack questioned why was the sign at Fireman's Memorial Park removed? Mayor DeVinko explained the signage needs maintenance because one leg was broken. Ms. Mack requested an update regarding if the Village street sweeper is working, and the Mayor indicated the Village is waiting for a repair part.

Resident Mack asked if the D.P.W. can remove the yard and garage sale signs when they are mowing lawns. The Mayor explained that the Village Building Inspector is the Department responsible for sign removal.

Ms. Mack continued there are leaf bags in need of pick-up at 54 and 58 Decker Drive, and the Village should educate residents about what items are picked up. The Mayor replied that the D.P.W. have door knockers which can be utilized for this purpose.

Diane Mack indicated she has completed an Incident Report regarding the culvert located at 1 Capital Drive and Liberty Court, and to date has not received a reply concerning this matter. The Mayor commented that this report is on the D.P.W.'s project list, and as the weather becomes drier the Village will review this matter.

Resident Vincent Lang of 9 Plymouth Rock Court stated why is it necessary to fill out an Incident Report? The D.P.W. and Village Board should be proactive and repair these problems.

Mayor DeVinko stated the Village has a long list that the D.P.W. is tackling, and the Board appreciates everyone assisting the Village, and working together as a community.

PUBLIC COMMENT - (CONTINUED):

Resident requested that Board meetings be posted on the Village Facebook Page, and Deputy Mayor Jacaruso stated moving forward this will be done.

Resident Lang commented the Village should be able to control water issues and are presently sustaining South Blooming Grove. Mr. Lang requested the Village Board provide their opinion regarding this matter.

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso stated the Village of Washingtonville is selling water to Spindler Bulk. The Village cannot tell them who to sell water to. It would be like telling a Food Distributor not to sell their food in fear of where it may end up. The Village cannot control where the water is being delivered.

The Village water levels are monitored each day, and when they go low all sales are cut off. As a human being water is a necessary element, and if I can help another human being in distress I will do that as long as it does not affect the population of this Village.

Trustee Coleman stated "I do not wish to comment."

Trustee Presser indicated the Village should continue to sell water, and not everything is going where you think it is going. Even if the Village stops providing water it will still be obtained anyway, It is also pool season, and many loads of water are taken. The Village cannot control their business.

Resident Paul Lang of 10 Patriot Lane stated there are restrictions put on by the Orange County Department of Health indicating that in certain areas including South Blooming Grove outside water should not be provided by the Village.

Mr. Lang questioned what hours will the Part Time Building Department Inspector work, and Deputy Mayor Jacaruso responded eight (8) hours a week from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

24 – 0063 – ADJOURNMENT:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to adjourn the May 20, 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