

A Village Board Regular Meeting was held on Monday, August 5, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, New York.

**PRESENT:**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Village Clerk Christine Shenkman, Village Police Chief Brian Zaccaro and Department of Public Works Superintendent Christopher Martino.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:**

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

**VILLAGE CLERK – ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE - VILLAGE POLICE OFFICER STEEVENS SANCLAIR:**

Village Clerk Christine Shenkman administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Village Police Officer Steevens Sanclair and expressed congratulations and best of luck to Officer Sanclair.

Village Police Chief Brian Zaccaro introduced Officer Sanclair to the audience, and shared his history and background as a Police Officer.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS:**

Audience member Vincent Lang of 9 Plymouth Rock Court questioned "what is the status of the previous Village Building Inspector?"

Village Attorney Christopher Pavlacka explained "there are separate proceedings taking place. One is a Section 72 versus Section 75 Medical and Disciplinary Hearings which will be held on September 14, 2024."

Mayor DeVinko stated if the Building Inspector "is cleared then the Village Board can review the Inter-Municipal Agreement (Building Department services) with the Town of Blooming Grove."

Audience member Sean Hegarty of 4 Belvoir Drive stated "I noticed the bleachers are being installed by the Village Pickleball Courts, and are they far enough away from the fence so no one hurts themselves? Court fences are supposed to be on the inside so when someone leans on it, like people do, the fencing will not come down. If it was installed incorrectly then the fence company needs to fix it. Is there a warranty and guarantee on the fencing?"

Mayor DeVinko responded "I am not sure at this time but the Village will have to review the Court situation." The Mayor indicated "I looked at fences on other Pickleball Courts, and they were installed the same way." The Mayor and Village Board will review this matter.

Audience member Paul Lang of 10 Patriot Lane commented "doesn't the Village do their own striping of roads?", and Mayor DeVinko indicated "the Village has never done the center lines."

Mr. Lang continued "is the \$58.00 Sewer Facility Fee permanent", and Mayor DeVinko "said yes, until the Village Board sees the trend and effect with respect to the Village Budget. The Sewer Facility Fee covers the Sewer Bond payment for the work the previous administration began on the Sewer Plant."

**PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS - (CONTINUED):**

Mr. Lang stated "is it correct that no Bids were received for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Roof Project on the Sewer Operations building," and Mayor DeVinko explained the Village requested Bids twice and no responses were received. The Village has heard that Contractors do not want to tie up their staff for two (2) months on a project of this nature. The Village is investigating the possibility of working with the Village Attorney and Village Engineer to determine if a local roofing company can be hired to work on this project."

Paul Lang requested the "Agenda for this evening's meeting that is currently on the website be updated."

Mr. Lang continued "did the Village receive the Grant for the water meter project," and Mayor DeVinko stated "not at this time." Mr. Lang further questioned "has the Village made any progress on the water irrigation meters? I do not feel it is fair that residents pay for sewage when their water does not go there." Trustee Walski indicated "the Village is eighty-five percent (85%) done working on this matter."

Nancy Donaldson of 4 Emerson Drive commented "with regard to the replacement roof at the Sewer Plant do companies still install rubber roofs, and would it cost less?"

Mayor DeVinko explained "the Sewer Plant Operations Building roof is flat, and does not have a pitch. If a rubber roof was installed that type of roof would leak again."

Sean Hegarty of 4 Belvoir Drive questioned "does the Village have fire hydrants out of service because I noticed black bags and yellow tags on some of the hydrants and if they are out of service this could cause safety issues."

Mayor DeVinko responded "I am aware of two (2) hydrants, and one that was leaking was just repaired at the Sewer Plant. Monell Engine Company and the Village Police Department were notified about these hydrants."

Sean Hegarty requested the exact cost of Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) employees reading the water meters versus H2O Water and Sewer Company reading the meters because he does not feel it is saving the Village \$100,000?

Trustee Walski commented she will recheck this information.

Mayor DeVinko responded the Village Board will revisit the figures and report back at the Village Board Work Session meeting. The bottom line is the Village is attempting to save money, and meter replacement should have been done years ago. The Village is working on a new water meter starter system and are in the process of analyzing the Budget to see if additional Full Time positions can be created in the Water Budget.

Mr. Hegarty suggested the Village utilize the funds received from Spindler Bulk, and Mayor DeVinko explained these funds are being used for Engineering purposes for the High Grove Development well.

William Palmer of 10 Decker Drive expressed thanks to Mayor DeVinko and the Village Board and indicated "there has been a tremendous amount of precipitation during the month of August thus far. I have lived in the Village of Washingtonville for thirty-six (36) years and never have I once ran the faucet and not received water. Thank you again for all your dedicated work."

Mayor DeVinko announced in the event of an emergency situation the Village can utilize the well at Spindler Bulk once the Orange County – Department of Health (O.C. – D.O.H.) is notified to obtain additional water in the Village.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – DISCUSSION:****UPDATE REGARDING EDMUNDS FINANCIAL NEW WATER METER SYSTEM:**

Trustee Walski announced the new Water – Sewer billing has been sent out, and over two-thousand (2,000) accounts were carried over to the new system. If residents have any questions please call Village Hall and ask directly for Trustee Walski.

**UPDATE – ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES CORPORATION – (E.F.C.) DISBURSEMENT:**

Mayor DeVinko received notification from Environmental Facilities Corporation (E.F.C.) indicating the Village will receive funds in the amount of \$313,000. The Mayor, Village Attorney and Village Bond Attorney worked together and E.F.C. has removed the hold on all Village accounts. Presently, the Village is working on providing invoices and Contractor check payments from the prior administration so E.F.C. has proof all Contractors were paid.

**INSTALLATION OF BLEACHERS FOR PICKLEBALL COURTS:**

The Village will install bleachers by the Pickleball Courts which are consistently being utilized. The Mayor is working on obtaining Grants for lighting in this area so evening Pickleball can take place.

**PAVING PROJECT - PEACOCK CIRCLE AND MOCKINGBIRD LANE:**

The Village of Washingtonville and Town of Blooming Grove Department of Public Works (D.P.W.'s) have completed the paving project on Peacock Circle and Mockingbird Lane.

**DRAINAGE PROJECT AT 30 AND 32 DECKER DRIVE AND RERA COURT:**

The Village Department of Public Works has completed the drainage project at 30 and 32 Decker Drive, and Rera Court whose houses were affected due to flooding.

**WATERFORD CIRCLE AT WOODFIELD - PAVING LINCOLN DRIVE:**

Mayor DeVinko reported if weather conditions allow Lincoln Drive will be paved and the project completed. The Village Board will revisit the Budget to determine which project may be done in the future depending on the amount of C.H.I.P.S. funding that is allotted to the Village.

**BID FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT:**

The Mayor announced there were no Bids submitted to the Village of Washingtonville with regard to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Building Roof Replacement Project. A meeting will be set up with the Village Attorney and Village Engineer to determine how to proceed with this matter.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – DISCUSSION - (CONTINUED):****UPDATE - VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - PROPOSED ZONING:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso is working with Village Comprehensive Planner Bonnie Franson, and Committee members meet twice a month. The last part that needs to be complete is the Zoning piece. The Village may need an additional extension because the Comprehensive Plan has not been updated since 1995. A Public Hearing will be held before any decision is made.

**UPDATE - LEAD AND COPPER SURVEY STATUS - SOUTH STREET, GOSHEN AVENUE AND WEST MAIN STREET:**

The Lead and Copper Survey is an ongoing project, and the Village recently sent out letters regarding this matter and progress has been positive thus far. The Village Board encourages residents and downtown businesses to continue to assist the Village by filling out this survey. The percentage of homes that do have Lead and Copper piping are low. The Survey is due by October 2024.

**E.J. MCLAUGHLIN SQUARE - BEAUTIFICATION LIGHTING:**

The Village plans to install lighting in the parking lot area at E.J. McLaughlin Square. Aluminum poles will be installed, and the Village is working on logistic matters.

**VILLAGE COURT AUDIT – FISCAL YEAR 2023 – 2024:**

The Village Court Clerk is compiling information required for the 2023 – 2024 Village Fiscal Year Court Audit. PKF O'Connor – Davies will be reviewing the past two (2) years of Village Court records.

**ORANGE AND ROCKLAND UTILITIES INC. – REPLACEMENT OF UTILITY POLES:**

The Orange and Rockland utility poles located on Ballard Pond Drive and Washington Boulevard have been replaced, and the Village is waiting for O & R to replace the broken pole on Decker Drive.

**RESOLUTIONS:****RESOLUTION - 24 – 0103 – WARD PAVEMENTS INC. - MILL AND PAVE LINCOLN DRIVE:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize approval for Ward Pavements Inc. to mill and pave Lincoln Drive at a cost not to exceed \$78,222.25; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0104 – NANNINI & CALLAHAN EXCAVATING INC. - UPGRADE CURBS AND SIDEWALKS ON LINCOLN DRIVE AND HAYES PLACE:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to authorize approval for Nannini & Callahan Excavating Inc. to upgrade curbs and sidewalks on Lincoln Drive and Hayes Place at a cost not to exceed \$70,500.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTIONS – (CONTINUED):****RESOLUTION –24 – 0105 – PROPOSAL FROM CODE RED CORE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM (ONSOLVE) TO REPLACE THE C.T.Y. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to accept the Proposal from Code Red Core Communication System (Onsolve) to replace the C.T.Y. Telephone Communication System currently in place for the Village of Washingtonville at an annual cost of \$2,140.00; (this is an annual savings of approximately \$1,000 from the Village prior system); said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION - 24 – 0106 – RESIGNATION - TIMOTHY IPPOLITO - PART TIME BUILDING INSPECTOR:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to accept the resignation of Timothy Ippolito as Part Time Building Inspector effective July 25, 2024; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION - 24 – 0107 – PURCHASE OF A TRAILER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FROM CONGELOSI TRAILER SALES:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to approve the purchase of a trailer for the Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) from Congelosi Trailer Sales at a price not to exceed \$4,216.00 to replace the existing trailer which has a broken axle and would cost \$2,000 in repairs; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION - 24 – 0108 – NEW YORK TREE MASTERS - 12 CONGRESS DRIVE GREEN AREA:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to approve tree work to be done by New York Tree Masters in the 12 Congress Drive green area at a cost not to exceed \$3,000; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0109 – STREET STRIPPING OF DOUBLE YELLOW LINES ON VILLAGE ROADS - ATLANTIC PAVEMENT MARKING:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to approve street stripping of double yellow lines on Village roads by Atlantic Pavement Marking at a cost not to exceed \$7,000; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0110 – EMPLOYMENT OF EILEEN LOPEZ - PART TIME CLERK:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize the employment of Eileen Lopez as a Part Time Clerk with a twenty (20) hour work week effective August 5, 2024 at an Hourly Wage of \$21.00; said

**RESOLUTIONS - (CONTINUED):****RESOLUTION – 24 – 0110 – EMPLOYMENT OF EILEEN LOPEZ - PART TIME CLERK:**

Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0111 – NEW SIGN DESIGN - NEW YORK PERFORMING ARTS DANCE STUDIO - 1 SOUTH STREET:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to approve a new Sign design for the New York Performing Arts Dance Studio located at 1 South Street based upon confirmation of no semi or high gloss finish; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0112 – FACILITY USE REQUEST FORM - WASHINGTONVILLE YOUTH CHEERLEADERS CLINIC:**

Trustee Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize a Facility Use Request form for Washingtonville Youth Cheerleaders Clinic to be held at L. Vernon Allen Park on Monday, August 12 between 11:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION 24 – 0113 – FACILITY USE REQUEST FORM - WASHINGTONVILLE SOCCER (SCHOOL TEAM) – CAR WASH:**

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize a Facility Use Request form to Washingtonville Soccer (School Team) for a Car Wash to be held at Veterans Memorial Lot on Sunday, September 1; said Resolution is based upon receipt of a Certificate of Insurance, and passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0114 – EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME VILLAGE POLICE OFFICER:**

Trustee Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize the employment of Steevens Sainclair as a Full Time Village of Washingtonville Police Officer effective August 5, 2024 at an annual salary of \$77,369.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0115 – AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFERS, AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PAY VILLAGE WARRANTS:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso 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 Village Warrants: General Fund Payments - \$237,473.34; Water Fund Payments - \$44,011.81 and Sewer Fund Payments - \$13,291.20; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Audience member Vincent Lang of 9 Plymouth Rock Court stated "the Edison lighting is a great idea for the downtown Village area, however the lighting coming from the Vape Shop window lights up the entire downtown." Mr. Lang further commented "he is glad an Inter-Municipal Agreement is in place, and hopefully enforcement of Village Codes by the Code Enforcement Officer will begin."

**PUBLIC COMMENT - (CONTINUED):**

Mayor DeVinko explained "the Village Board is in the process of reviewing the Sign Law, and a meeting took place with the downtown businesses and Chamber of Commerce to introduce the different types of signage that are best suited to the Village of Washingtonville's needs."

Mr. Vincent Lang stated "now that the Village has a Building Inspector it is my hope that Codes will be enforced in the Village of Washingtonville. Residents are leaving garbage cans out seven (7) days per week."

Mr. Lang continued "has the Village Board made any progress with regard to the Air B and B Short Term Rental Local Law? Mayor DeVinko commented the Village Attorney is working on this issue."

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso explained "Village Building Inspector Consultant B.J. Gettle is working on the Village Codes to filter through the different versions of this Law. A Building Department update will be provided at the next Village Board meeting."

**RESOLUTION 24 – 0116 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and no decisions will be made; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESOLUTION 24 – 0117 – RESUMPTION OF MEETING:**

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

**RESOLUTION 24 – 0118 – ADJOURNMENT:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to adjourn the August 5, 2024 Village Board Regular Meeting; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**CHRISTINE SHENKMAN**

**VILLAGE CLERK**