

A Village Board Regular Meeting was held on Monday, September 16, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, New York.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Mayor Thomas DeVinko.

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:

Deputy Mayor Donna Jacaruso led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS:

Resident Paul Lang from 10 Patriot Lane questioned "what repair work was needed on the well pipe and when did the problem start? What is the cost and what repairs have been done so far?"

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso replied "there was a leak in the pipe, and I am not aware of when it started leaking. I will gather the information and get back to you."

D.P.W. Superintendent Christopher Martino stated "it is the pipe inside the trailer that is broken. The trailer belongs to the Village and is being repaired for emergency use."

Resident Vincent Lang from 9 Plymouth Rock Court stated, "how many Bids were received for the Wastewater Treatment Plant roofing project, was ABC Roofing the lowest Bid, and where is the company located?"

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso stated "this Resolution is tabled tonight because the Board is waiting for additional information. There is another company that wanted to place a Bid today, but it has not been received yet."

Resident Vincent Lang questioned "where is ABC Roofing located?"

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso responded "As far as I am aware they are located in New Jersey. The Village originally requested Bids two (2) times but due to prevailing wage none was received. The Village received a Bid from Precision Roofing and then ABC Roofing came forward and put in a Bid. There is a big price discrepancy, and the Village wishes to look further into the difference."

Mr. Vincent Lang asked, "with regard to Resolution Number 147 – Camera Purchase, what are the cameras for?"

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso stated "the funds are from a Technology Grant for the Police Department and includes a camera installed at E.J. McLaughlin Square and one at the Village Municipal parking lot behind Hook and Ladder. The cameras will run twenty-four hours."

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Vincent Lang continued “why did the Village choose that location” and Deputy Mayor Jacaruso commented “it is a Dish being utilized and it is the easiest to install.”

Mr. Paul Lang indicated “with regard to the Spindler well pipe repair is there a written agreement with Baroda Realty to use the wells since those wells are not the Village’s anymore? Mayor DeVinko had mentioned previously the Village can utilize the wells in an emergency but does the Village have written permission from the owner?”

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso replied “I will make a note and find out the answer.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DISCUSSION:**UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 11 CEREMONIES:**

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso indicated there were three (3) ceremonies at Firemen’s Memorial Park on September 11 beginning with Washingtonville High School J.R.O.T.C Flag Ceremony in the morning, followed by the Retired Firefighters Memorial Ceremony in the afternoon and ending the evening with a beautiful Candlelight Vigil. There was a great turnout and thank you to the Village Department of Public Works for a fantastic job with cleaning, mulching and flag placement in the park.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SWEEPER - REPAIR UPDATE:

The D.P.W. street sweeper is repaired and will be on the road tomorrow, Tuesday.

UPDATE - SPINDLER WELL PIPE REPAIR:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso indicated the Spindler well pipe repair project is almost complete.

LEAD AND COPPER STUDY – STATUS UPDATE:

The Village Lead and Copper Study is progressing in the downtown Village area, East and West Main Street, Goshen Ave, Lark Street and Tower Hill Drive. The surveys will be submitted to the Orange County Department of Health (O.C. – D.O.H.) in October of 2024.

UPDATE REGARDING PAVING ON LINCOLN DRIVE:

Paving on Lincoln Drive is scheduled for Monday, September 23 and Tuesday, September 24.

RESOLUTIONS:**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0150 - EMPLOYMENT OF STEPHEN MOREA – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to authorize the employment of Stephen Morea as a Public Works Maintenance Worker commencing this date, September 16, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$29.0699; said

RESOLUTIONS – (CONTINUED):**RESOLUTION – 24 – 0150 - EMPLOYMENT OF STEPHEN MOREA – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER – (CONTINUED):**

Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 24 – 0151 - ABC CONTRACTING – WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) – OPERATIONS BUILDING – EMERGENCY ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to table the Resolution regarding the hiring of ABC Contracting for the emergency roof replacement at the Village Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) at a cost not to exceed \$27,500.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 24 – 0152 - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT – ATTENDANCE AT N.Y.C.O.M. CONFERENCE:

Trustee Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to approve Department of Public Works Superintendent Christopher Martino to attend the New York State – Conference of Mayors (N.Y.C.O.M.) Public Works Training School from Monday, October 21 to Wednesday, October 23, 2024 in Saratoga Springs, New York at a cost not to exceed \$1,200.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 24 – 0153 – ORANGE COUNTY OPEN SPACE FUNDING APPLICATION – FALL 2024 - SEWELL PARK:

Trustee Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize Mayor DeVinko to submit the Orange County Open Space Funding Application – Fall 2024 for Sewell Park with Letters of Support from Blooming Grove Conservation Advisory Commission, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and community support; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 24 – 0154 – PUBLIC ASSEMBLY PERMIT - HUDSON VALLEY HAWKS 5K AND FUN RUN FUNDRAISER:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to authorize a Public Assembly Permit to Hudson Valley Hawks for a 5K and Fun Run Fundraiser to be held at L. Vernon Allen Park on Saturday, December 14 from 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. based on receipt of an amended Certificate of Insurance; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 24 -0155 – AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF SERVER AND CAMERA SYSTEM - E.J. MCLAUGHLIN SQUARE AND SOUTH STREET LOT:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to table the Resolution for the purchase of a Digital Watchdog Server and Camera System for E.J. McLaughlin Square and South Street Lot from the lowest price quotation Vendor Metro Sound Pros Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$34,500.00.

RESOLUTION – 24 – 0156 – ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER CHEMICALS AND WASTEWATER DEWATERED SLUDGE REMOVAL:

Trustee Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize Village Clerk Christine Shenkman to advertise for Bids for Water and Wastewater Chemicals and Wastewater Dewatered Sludge Removal; Bid opening date is Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 2:00 P.M.; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 24 -0157 – APPROVAL OF SIGN FOR BALANCE BODYWORK & SPA INC.:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Walski and adopted to authorize approval of the sign for Balance Bodywork & Spa Inc. based upon approval from Village Building Inspector Jeanne Ovensen; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 24 – 0158 – AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFERS, AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PAY VILLAGE WARRANTS:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize Budget Transfers and Amendments as necessary to affect necessary Transfer of Funds and to pay Village Warrants; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

With regard to removal of a business sign and replacing it with the same type of sign Village Attorney Christopher Pavlacka stated "in reviewing Village Code if a business owner is placing the same sign back up after replacing windows I do not read the Code as having to submit a new application. If they do not alter it or relocate it the business does not need to submit a new application."

Audience member Bill Graber of 18 Washington Boulevard commented "what is the purpose of the Lead and Copper Study?"

Trustee Coleman indicated "it is a requirement from New York State."

Trustee Walski responded "the State has mandated that Municipalities catalogue their pipe inventory to determine if the pipes are lead or copper."

Mr. Graber questioned, "When is it scheduled to be done" and Deputy Mayor Walski replied, "October is when the work and the study has to be completed."

Resident Paul Lang from 10 Patriot Lane stated "the sign on the new Greek restaurant looks good and similar to the one that was previously in place."

Mr. Lang asked "if the Village Board can review the Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) with the Town of Blooming Grove for Building Inspector services? How many hours per week does the Building Inspector work," and Deputy Mayor Jacaruso responded "up to twenty-four (24) hours for all three (3) Building Inspectors."

Mr. Lang continued "how much money is the Town receiving" and Deputy Mayor Jacaruso responded "approximately \$40,000".

Resident Paul Lang questioned the Village Attorney as to "what is the status of the Lawsuit filed last May regarding 61 East Main Street."

Village Attorney Pavlacka explained "I am not the Attorney handling that Lawsuit. There are separate Insurance Counsels handling this matter."

PUBLIC COMMENT – (CONTINUED):

Mr. Lang questioned "how much money has been paid in legal fees so far?" and Attorney Pavlacka stated "the Insurance carriers pays if it is for monetary damages. I have dealt with these suits before and there is very little chance of 61 East Main Street succeeding, especially on the Federal suit because they do not have a final opinion from the Village Planning and Village Zoning Board."

Mr. Lang continued "how is the matter of the Village Building Inspector progressing" and Attorney Pavlacka responded "there are no updates at this point in time."

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso stated "there is an appointment coming up in October that was rescheduled from August."

Resident Paul Lang commented "I would appreciate the information concerning who is paying for the well pipe repair work and is there an Agreement in place with the owner of the property."

Resident Vincent Lang from 9 Plymouth Rock Court indicated "with regard to the Resolution concerning cameras I appreciate the Village Board tabling this matter. I walk downtown and there are currently at least five (5) cameras outside businesses. In addition, I know the Fire Department has one facing towards the gas station. I feel that we should take the funds for the cameras and save or reinvest it and put cameras elsewhere such as at the Village Parks. The Police Department can utilize full cameras from local downtown businesses if need be."

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso stated, "the funding for the camera system is part of a Grant Program and has to be utilized for technology".

Mr. Lang continued "that is fine but use it for technology at our Village Parks."

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso stated "the Village Board has every intention in making Firemens Memorial Park a priority."

Resident Lang responded "I feel there are enough cameras in the downtown locations. At the last Village Board meeting I expressed concerns regarding access to the Village Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). It appears there are two (2) locks on the gate in this location. There should be one (1) lock only for D.P.W., Police Department and Spindler Bulk. Spindler should also not have access after business hours. There needs to be security protocol at the Wastewater Treatment Plant."

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso commented "after the last Village Board meeting I know you had a conversation with H2O, the Village Water and Sewer Company", and Mr. Lang replied "H2O explained Spindler is a Certified Water Carrier. In my opinion they are not Village employees and should not be there after hours because there is no one available to monitor the sale of Village water, and there is no camera on the meter. A camera should be placed in the D.P.W. location."

RESOLUTION 24 – 0159 - EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Trustee Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to enter Executive Session to discuss Attorney Client privileges to discuss legal matters and no decisions will be made; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION 24 – 0160 – RESUMPTION OF MEETING:

Trustee Walski 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. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION 24 – 0161 – ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to adjourn the September 16, 2024, Village Board Regular Meeting; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

CHRISTINE SHENKMAN

VILLAGE CLERK