

A Village Board Regular Meeting was held on Monday, February 3, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, New York.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Trustee Susan Walski.

ALSO PRESENT:

Village Clerk Christine Shenkman, Village Treasurer Leslie Tillotson and Village Attorney Christopher Pavlacka.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Audience member Paul Lang of 10 Patriot Lane stated “with regard to the letter from New York State it was said they received a conflicting Budget from the Village of Washingtonville. What Budget did the Village Board send to the Comptroller’s Office?”

Treasurer Tillotson explained “there was a \$34,000 calculation discrepancy by the Village on Health Insurance in which I notified the State Comptroller. I thought they would make that change on the new Budget however they did not.”

Mr. Lang continued “the Report states the Village did not provide the Comptroller’s Office with accurate Budget figures in a timely manner.”

Paul Lang questioned “is the Budget the Village Board is voting on tonight the same one presented on Jan 13, and no changes have been made?”

Treasurer Tillotson stated “that is correct. Nothing has changed.”

Mr. Lang indicated the Comptroller’s Report states the “Village should be providing Monthly Financial Reports, and expressed concerns about Village Revenue facing a shortfall as referenced in the State of New York’s Report.”

An audience member commented “Fourteen (14%) Percent is a huge increase with regard to Senior Citizens and all residents in the Village of Washingtonville. Are there any other programs in place in the Village (besides STAR) to offer a tax break?”

Mayor DeVinko responded “from the Village no but I have recently been speaking with State Senators about other types of programs that the Village residents could take advantage of. The tax incentives being offered presently to the Village are all through the Town of Blooming Grove.”

Audience member Vincent Lang of 9 Plymouth Rock Court stated “I suggested previously to the Village Board that short-term rentals generate Revenue, and the Village of Washingtonville should allow this. The Board needs to find ways to create Revenue, and they are not cost-cutting but spending monies non-stop.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DISCUSSIONS:

NEW YORK STATE - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – (N.Y.S. – D.O.T.) - WORK PERMITS - TREES AND LIGHTING – DOWNTOWN BUSINESS AREA:

Mayor DeVinko explained the Village Board has been working on obtaining New York State – Department of Transportation (N.Y.S. – D.O.T.) Work Permits regarding the planting of trees and installation of lighting in the downtown Village business area.

POLES AND CABLING FOR E.J. MCLAUGHLIN SQUARE - LIGHTING AND SECURITY CAMERA:

The Village has reached out to Electricians concerning the installation of poles and string lighting for E.J. McLaughlin Square.

GRANT APPLICATION – CROSSWALK LIGHTS:

Mayor DeVinko applied for a Grant in the amount of \$9,000 to cover the electrical costs for crosswalk lighting that was installed last year in front of Taft Elementary School.

COMMUNITY PAPER SHREDDING DAY – APRIL 2025:

The Village is proposing to sponsor a Community Paper Shredding Day during the month of April. The Mayor will keep residents and businesses updated as plans progress.

BASKETBALL COURT - WOODFIELD PARK:

The Village Board is waiting to receive price quotations regarding the potential to install a Basketball Court at Woodfield Skateboard Park.

SKATEBOARD AREA - WOODFIELD PARK:

The Village Board is waiting to receive price quotations regarding the potential to install a Skateboard area at Woodfield Skateboard Park.

QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORTS - POSTED ON VILLAGE WEBSITE:

Quarterly Budget Reports will be posted on the Village Website when received from the Village Treasurer.

OFFICE OF NEW YORK STATE COMPTROLLER - BUDGET COMMENT AND RESPONSE:

The Budget Comment and Response from the Office of New York State Comptroller will be posted on the Village Website.

RESOLUTIONS:**RESOLUTION – 25 – 0019 – AUTHORIZATION – YEAR 2025 VILLAGE ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR LIST AND ADDITION OF YURI BADOVICH TO THE ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR LIST:**

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize the present Electrical Inspector List for the year 2025, and to approve the addition of Yuri Badovich to the Village of Washingtonville Electrical Inspector List; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 25 – 0020 – EMPLOYMENT OF CYNTHIA SULLIVAN - PART TIME CLERK - VILLAGE HALL RECEPTION AREA:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to approve the employment of Cynthia Sullivan as a Part Time Clerk for the Village Hall reception area at a salary of \$20.00 Per Hour; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 25 – 0021 – ADOPTION OF VILLAGE OF WASHINGTONVILLE PROPOSED 2025 - 2026 FISCAL YEAR – GENERAL – WATER - SEWER BUDGETS:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to approve the Village of Washingtonville proposed 2025 – 2026 Fiscal Year General, Water and Sewer Budgets; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 25 – 0022 – SURPLUS POLICE DEPARTMENT 2016 FORD INTERCEPTOR POLICE VEHICLE:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to declare surplus and of no value to the Village of Washingtonville a Police Department 2016 Ford Interceptor Police Vehicle – Identification Number 1FM5K8AR8GGA72234 that has 94,114 miles and was placed out of service due to transmission and mechanical issues; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 25 – 0023 – APPROVAL OF NEW YORK STATE RETIREMENT STANDARD WORKDAY – FOR ELECTED OFFICIAL VILLAGE JUSTICE JOSEPH MCKAY EIGHT (8) HOUR WORK DAY:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to approve the New York State Retirement Standard Workday for Elected Official Village Justice Joseph McKay to be an Eight (8) Hour Workday; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

RESOLUTION – 25 – 0024 - TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS AS NECESSARY TO AFFECT NECESSARY TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND 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

RESOLUTION – 25 – 0024 - TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS AS NECESSARY TO AFFECT NECESSARY TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND TO PAY VILLAGE WARRANTS – (CONTINUED):

Transfer of Funds and to pay Warrants; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstentions.

General Fund \$67,580.49 (Majority of expenditures is for road salt)

Water Fund \$11,443.96

Sewer Fund \$18,353.80

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Audience member Vincent Lang of 9 Plymouth Rock Court questioned "with regard to the speed statistics for the Police Department camera what kind of enforcement follow up is the Police Department conducting?"

Chief Zaccaro stated, "it is people in our own community that are speeding and running through stop signs."

Discussion took place regarding fees being charged with regard to events sponsored by the Events Committee, and Village business owner Justine Maiorino from Guilty Pleasures (9 Goshen Avenue) explained "the Events Committee offset costs to the Village by hiring private security and sanitation companies which assist the Department of Public Works with cleanup. We pay for events as a Committee and we are all Volunteers not under the Village of Washingtonville. The Vendors are charged for events, and in the past a vote was taken requesting if people still want these events and the answer was yes. The Committee was asked to run the events and we spend a lot of our own time and money. The events are beneficial because we have new businesses that attended an event and decided to locate their business in the Village of Washingtonville. If anyone has questions or comments we are here tonight to listen and respond."

An audience member questioned "does any of the money generated from these events go to the Village?"

Ms. Maiorino replied "in terms of hiring private security the Village does not have to do this or pay overtime to Village Police Department employees because the event committee takes care of security. We review all matters with first responders with regard to safety, parking, refuse disposal and many other issues."

RESOLUTION 25 – 0025 - ADJOURNMENT:

Deputy Mayor Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to close the Village Board 2025 – 2026 Budget Public Hearing, and adjourn the February 3, 2025 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