

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
January 10, 2024, 6:30 PM**

PRESENT:

Mayor Daniel F. DeVita
Deputy Mayor Kevin Jusko
Trustee Nancy Jones
Trustee Jeffrey Miritello
Trustee Jeffrey Nemshin
Trustee Richard Nicklas
Trustee Nicholas Tsafos

Howard Avrutine, Village Attorney via Zoom
Elizabeth Kaye, Financial Consultant
Renee Augusto, Deputy Clerk/Court Clerk

EXCUSED:

James Antonelli, Village Engineer
Michael McNerney, Building Inspector
Kate Hillmann, Clerk/Treasurer

MAYOR DEVITA called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

POLICE REPORT: The Board reviewed the Oyster Bay Cove Police Department Monthly Report for December 2023, which was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting. Statistics for the month are as follows:

| | | | Totals this month | Totals this year | Totals prior year to date |
|---|----------|--|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Auto Accidents Personal Injury | | | 1 | 8 | 4 |
| Auto Accidents Property Damage | | | 3 | 25 | 29 |
| Aided Cases Resulting from Auto Accidents | | | 1 | 12 | 7 |
| Aided Cases Other | | | 8 | 68 | 67 |
| Arrests | | | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| Summonses - Moving Violations | | | 14 | 320 | 255 |
| Summonses - Parking | | | 0 | 25 | 37 |
| Fire Calls | | | 0 | 13 | 14 |
| Patrol Mileage | | | 4,650 | 54,750 | 54,750 |
| Offenses - Case Reports | - Page 2 | | 4 | 27 | 22 |
| Suspicious Autos | | | 4 | 36 | 36 |
| Suspicious Persons | | | 2 | 26 | 27 |
| Suspicious Phone Calls | | | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Recorded Alarms | | | 12 | 151 | 209 |
| Vacant Houses | | | 0 | 24 | 44 |
| Disturbances | | | 4 | 29 | 16 |
| Malicious Mischief | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Non-Case Incidents | | | 0 | 10 | 10 |
| Animal Nuisance Complaints | | | 1 | 16 | 10 |
| Assist From NCPD | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Stop Signs | 2 |
| Cell Phone | 0 |
| Speeding | 1 |
| Unlicensed Operation | 2 |
| Uninspected mv | 1 |
| DWI | 0 |
| No Insurance | 2 |
| Expired Registration | 1 |
| Disobey Traffic Control Device | 0 |
| Vio. Village Ordinance | 0 |
| Following Too Closely | 0 |
| Fail to Keep Right | 0 |
| Improper Turn | 0 |
| No Parking | 0 |
| Equipment Violation | 5 |
| No Seatbelt | 0 |
| Total | 14 |

In connection with the police report, Mayor DeVita discussed a request from the Oyster Bay Cove Police Department to use the Village's rights-of-way to install License Plate Readers (LPR) as part of a test phase. Discussion ensued. Deputy Mayor Jusko moved to authorize Mayor DeVita to sign the letter authorizing Flock Group, Inc. to install LPR cameras in the Village, to be monitored by Oyster Bay Cove Police, seconded by Mayor DeVita, and approved by all present.

PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW A-2024

At 6:55 pm, Mayor DeVita opened the public hearing on Local Law A-2024 which proposes to amend Chapter 140 of the Village Code to prohibit fishing at the Laurel Hollow beach between May 1st and September 30th.

Attorney Avrutine read the following exhibits into the record:

- Excerpt from the minutes of the December 13th, 2023, meeting of the Board of Trustees setting the public hearing.
- Legal notice of public hearing prepared by the Village Clerk
- Affidavit from Richner Communications, Inc., the publisher of the Oyster Bay Herald, stating that the legal notice was published in the Oyster Bay Herald on December 22, 2023
- Affidavit from Village Clerk that the legal notice was posted at the Village Hall on December 18, 2023
- Affidavit from the Village Clerk stating that the notice of public hearing and local law were mailed to other interested parties on January 4th, 2024.
- Email from the Village Clerk to the Mayor and Board of Trustees sent on December 13th, 2023, with local law in draft form attached.
- Notification from the Nassau County Planning Commission (NCPC) dated December 19th 2023, that the matter is referred to the Laurel Hollow Board of Trustees to take action as it deems appropriate.

- Document indicating the notice of public hearing was published to the Village of Laurel Hollow website on January 4, 2024

There being no comments from the public, Mayor DeVita moved to close the hearing at 7:05 pm, seconded by Trustee Miritello, and approved by all.

Village Attorney Avrutine reported that this matter is a Type II action under SEQRA, and no further environmental review is required.

It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by all present, to adopt Local Law 1-2024 as presented.

BUILDING REPORT – NO REPORT FOR DECEMBER

VILLAGE ENGINEER REPORT –STORM WATER SYSTEM CLEANING ON LAUREL

HOLLOW ROAD: The Village Engineer provided a report to the Board regarding the number of catch basins on the north portion of Laurel Hollow Road and recommended cleaning the two catch basins near the police booth. Mayor DeVita moved to authorize up to \$13,500 for Busch Bros. to clean the two catch basins near the police booth, as indicated in the email/memo from Village Engineer Antonelli, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jusko, and approved by all present.

MINUTES of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on December 13, 2023, were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting for review. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by those present, that the minutes be approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT and the **REPORT OF UNPAID TAXES:** The Financial Consultant reported on the December 2023 Financial Report and the Report of Unpaid Taxes, which were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting for review.

Mayor DeVita moved to approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$7,050 from Contingency account A1990 to Highway Capital Equipment account A5110.2 to cover the cost of the new Village entrance signs.

RETURN OF 2023-2024 TAX ROLL - The Treasurer prepared the account of unpaid taxes pursuant to §1436 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York and distributed it to the Board for review prior to the meeting. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by all present, that the account of unpaid taxes be approved and that the Mayor and Trustees be authorized to sign the Warrant.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACTS: The abstracts were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting for review. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by those present, that the abstracts of vouchers presented by the Village Clerk-Treasurer be approved for payment, including additional claims not on the abstracts from CTC Telecom for \$620.00, NYSIF Disability for \$138.14, and from Rob Crafa for \$1,616.69, which will be paid out of Oyster Bay Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee non-village funds.

MUNICIPAL INSURANCE RENEWAL: Deputy Clerk Augusto reported to the Board on the municipal insurance renewal package prepared by Salerno Brokerage Corp. for the period 2/6/2024 thru 2/6/2025. All policies were carefully reviewed with Salerno Brokerage. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Nicklas, and approved by all present, that the quote from the Travelers Company for \$72,474 be accepted, which includes the cost for all the following policies: the Municipal Package with Automobile, Public Officials, Excess Liability, plus Public Employees Bond, and Cyber Liability. It was noted that Flood Insurance was previously approved.

FUEL STORAGE TANK INSURANCE RENEWAL: Deputy Clerk Augusto reported on the insurance renewal policy from Salerno Brokerage Corp. for the Village Fuel storage tanks for the period of 2/6/2024-2/6/2025. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jusko, and approved by all present, that the renewal policy be approved for \$2,530.46.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR LOCAL LAW B-2024 – TAX CAP OVERRIDE: A draft of Introductory Local Law B-2024, authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established by General Municipal Law, §3-c, was distributed to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Mayor DeVita explained that this legislation is prophylactic and has historically been passed every year at this time because the Board has not yet completed the budget for the next fiscal year and, therefore, does not yet know whether the state-imposed tax cap will be exceeded. Due to legal time constraints, the law must be enacted at this time to avoid penalties in the event the tap cap is exceeded for the fiscal year beginning on June 1, 2024. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by all present, that a public hearing be scheduled for February 14, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., or as soon as possible thereafter, on this local law and that the Clerk be authorized and directed to publish and post the required notice of public hearing.

PROPOSED NEW STREET SIGNS- The Board discussed a selection of designs for new street signs, provided by Inter-Government Liaison Lee Israel. The Board will discuss this further.

SUBDIVISION PARKLAND CONTRIBUTION – The Board discussed the current subdivision parkland contribution, currently at \$10,000 per new lot created, and determined that it was appropriate to raise the amount at this time. The Mayor noted that this contribution is intended to compensate the Village for the removal of open space. Mayor DeVita moved to raise the contribution rate per new lot created from \$10,000 to \$25,000, effective immediately, seconded by Trustee Jones and approved by all present.

RESOLUTION SETTING OFFICES TO BE FILLED, DATE & TIME OF ELECTION: It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by all present, that the following resolution be adopted.

RESOLVED that the offices to be filled at the next general election and the terms thereof are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| TRUSTEE | Two Years |
| TRUSTEE | Two Years |
| TRUSTEE | Two Years |
| VILLAGE JUSTICE | Four Years |

01/10/2024

and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, pursuant to §15-104(3) of the Election Law of the State of New York, said election shall be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2024; from noon to 9:00 p.m. at Village Hall, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Clerk shall cause this resolution to be published as required by law.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The Board returned to public session at 8:20 pm with no action taken.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL BE HELD AT 6:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024.

(Elizabeth Kaye for) Cathryn Hillmann
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk

ALSO PRESENT:

Lee Israel, Liaison for Intergovernmental Affairs