

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 13, 2024, 6:30 PM**

PRESENT:

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

Howard Avrutine, Village Attorney via Zoom
Elizabeth Kaye, Financial Consultant
Renee Augusto, Deputy Clerk/Court Clerk
Michael McNerney, Building Inspector
Kate Hillmann, Clerk/Treasurer

EXCUSED:

Trustee Nancy Jones
James Antonelli, Village Engineer

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 February 2024, which was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting. Police Chief Mergel and Police Sergeant Distefano were present to answer questions. Statistics for the month are as follows:

	Totals this month	Totals this year	Totals prior year to date
Auto Accidents Personal Injury	0	1	2
Auto Accidents Property Damage	0	3	6
Aided Cases Resulting from Auto Accidents	0	1	3
Aided Cases Other	11	17	8
Arrests	0	0	0
Summonses - Moving Violations	24	45	78
Summonses - Parking	2	2	4
Fire Calls	1	2	2
Patrol Mileage	4,350	9,000	8,850
Offenses - Case Reports - Page 2	0	1	4
Suspicious Autos	3	8	8
Suspicious Persons	2	4	8
Suspicious Phone Calls	0	0	0
Recorded Alarms	11	22	28
Vacant Houses	0	0	0
Disturbances	0	1	2
Malicious Mischief	0	0	0
Non-Case Incidents	0	0	1
Animal Nuisance Complaints	1	2	0
Assist From NCPD	0	0	0

Stop Signs	4
Cell Phone	0
Speeding	2
Unlicensed Operation	1
Uninspected mv	6
DWI	0
No Insurance	4
Expired Registration	2
Disobey Traffic Control Device	0
Vio. Village Ordinance	0
Following Too Closely	0
Fail to Keep Right	0
Improper Turn	0
No Parking	2
Equipment Violation	5
No Seatbelt	0
Total	26

LICENCE PLATE READERS (LPR): In connection with the police report, Chief Mergel provided an update on the License Plate Readers (LPR). Thirty-four License plate readers are to be installed along the North Shore funded through a grant program. Three of the thirty-four LPR's will be installed at the entry points into/out of the Village of Laurel Hollow. The first of three LPR's has been installed at the intersection of Cold Spring Road and Southwoods Road. The LPR's will be a tremendous asset assisting Law enforcement investigations.

FILM PERMIT APPLICATION #1-2024: Roselyn Moreno and Karel Schurman, of Kanan Productions, Inc., appeared before the Board to discuss the application for filming at 536 Cold Spring Road on March 22, 2024. Karel provided a summary of the filming scene and a detail of the timeline of events. Setup and filming will take place on March 22, 2024, cleanup will be completed by the end of day March 23, 2024. Karel informed the Board of relevant particulars such as: the light from 80-foot lifts on the property will be shining down and will not affect neighbors; noise will be minimal and the prop guns used will not produce any sounds; Oyster Bay Cove Police will be on site before, during and after filming; the adjacent neighbors have been notified. Mayor DeVita moved to approve the film permit application, seconded by Trustee Nemshin, and approved by all present with the following conditions:

1. Payment of the two-day filming fee must be received on or before March 21, 2024.
2. Payment to the Oyster Bay Cove Police must be received on or before March 21, 2024.
3. Notification to the five residents on Shady Lane as requested by Mayor DeVita.

BUILDING REPORT – REQUEST FOR REACTIVATION OF EXPIRED PERMIT #3521 -

AYOUB – 41 PICARDY LANE: This permit first expired in May of 2022 at which time the Board granted an extension which expired on July 26, 2023. Mr. Ayoub failed to request the final inspection or to provide the necessary paperwork to close the permit. Mr. Ayoub is requesting that this permit be reactivated so that a Certificate of Compliance may be issued, and the permit be closed. Upon motion by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Nicklas, and approved by those present, the Board authorized the permit to be reopened for 30 days, with no fee.

BUILDING REPORT – REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF REQUIRED FEE – AYOUB BP #3521 – 31 PICARDY LANE: At the February 14, 2024, Board meeting the Board denied the request by

Mr. Ayoub to waive the fee in the amount of \$18,495.00 imposed due to working without a permit. Mr. Ayoub provided a summary of the situation that occurred and asked the Board to revisit the decision of February 14, 2024. Upon motion by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by those present, the Board reduced the previously imposed extra fee of \$18,495.00 by 50% to \$9,247.50.

BUILDING REPORT – REQUEST FOR EXTENSION – KOSLOVSKY BP #3440 – 45

STILLWELL LANE: Mr. Koslovsky submitted a building permit application to install retaining walls and a water feature in his sloped rear yard on 9/8/22. The application requires Planning Board approval based on the number of trees to be removed and the proposed disturbance of regulated steep slopes. The application expired on 9/8/23, but Mr. Koslovsky desires to extend the application period so that he may obtain Planning Board approval and obtain a Building Permit. Upon motion by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jusko, and approved by those present, the Board authorized the permit to be reopened for 6 months, with no fee.

BUILDING REPORT – REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY –

CORE BP #3351 – 48 LAUREL COVE ROAD: The Cores obtained a building permit to construct a new residence on 10/11/22. Construction is substantially complete. Pending the completion of a satisfactory final life-safety inspection scheduled for 3/14/24, the Cores' request that the Board issue a TCO the expiration of which coincides with the expiration of their Building Permit on 4/11/24, as they plan to have all Certificate of Occupancy matters completed and signed off by the Building Inspector in advance of that date. Upon motion by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by those present, the Board issued a TCO with the condition that the residence pass a life safety inspection and that the TCO will run concurrent with the Building Permit set to expired on April 11, 2024.

SEPTIC SYSTEM INSTALLATION PROPOSALS: The Village Engineer provided a report summarizing the latest rebid for the Village Hall Septic System. Out of the three contractors that picked up the bid package only one submitted a proposal in the amount of \$44,750.00 which was much higher than previous proposals received by the Village. The Village Engineer was informed by the other contractors that they did not submit proposals because of Village umbrella liability insurance requirements, which they claimed was cost prohibitive. In addition, upon review of the proposal submitted, it was discovered that the contractor failed to supply the required insurance documents. In addition, the Mayor had a discussion with the Village Engineer regarding the specifications for the design of the system and that a lower capacity unit may be sufficient for the intended purpose. The Mayor indicated that he will contact the Nassau County consultant for the County's Soil and Water Conservation District which administers the grant for clarification and report back to the Board at the April 10th meeting.

VILLAGE ENGINEER REPORT –STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REPORT:

The Village Engineer submitted a proposal to the Board in the amount of \$7,200.00 to prepare and file the new annual Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) report on behalf of the Village. This involves responding to new DEC requirements and what is now over 140 pages of an application that contains burdensome requirements in order to get a permit to operate our drainage system. None of the costs associated with this application procedure, including the engineering fees, are reimbursed by the State. As the Mayor explained, this is another example of an unfunded state mandate whereby the residents must foot the bill for wanton Albany action. Upon motion by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jusko, and approved by those present, the Board accepted the proposal dated March 6, 2024.

MINUTES of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on February 14, 2024, were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting for review. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Miritello, and approved by those present, that the minutes be approved.

MINUTES of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting held on February 17, 2024, were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting for review. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jusko, and approved by those present, that the minutes be approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT and **REPORT OF UNPAID TAXES:** The Financial Consultant reported on the February 2024 Financial Report and Report of Unpaid Taxes, which were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting for review.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACTS: The abstracts were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting for review. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jusko, and approved by those present, that the abstracts of vouchers presented by the Village Clerk-Treasurer be approved for payment.

SET PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025: The tentative budget for fiscal year 2024-2025 was filed with the Village and posted on the Village website. The Board met on February 17, 2024, to prepare the tentative budget and, as a result of their hard work, Village taxes will be held at the same level as in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Trustee Tsafos, and approved by all present that the public hearing on the Tentative Budget be scheduled for April 10, 2024, at 6:30 pm.

RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT WITH eSCREEN: The Clerk-Treasurer reported that the employee drug and alcohol testing contract with eScreen is due to expire on February 28, 2024. It was moved by Mayor DeVita, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jusko, and approved by present, that the Board approve the agreement renewal.

INCREASE TO EXCESS UMBRELLA LIABILITY INSURANCE LIMIT: At the February Board meeting, the Board discussed increasing the Village's Umbrella Insurance Policy from \$10 million to \$15 million which was recommended by the Village insurance broker Salerno Brokerage. Trustee Nicklas distributed the premium proposal from Salerno which increased the premium by the sum of \$10,200.00 in order to increase the umbrella liability policy limits. It was moved by Mayor DeVita seconded by Trustee Nicklas, and approved by those present except for Trustee Miritello who voted no, that the Board approve the increase of excess liability umbrella coverage from \$10 million to \$15 million at additional cost to the Village of \$10,200.00.

PROPOSED NEW STREET SIGNS: The Village's Inter-Governmental Liaison, Lee Israel, obtained proposals from Signarama, Budget Mailboxes and Signature Streetscapes which were distributed to the Board for review. After discussion, the Board preferred the renderings from Signarama. The Mayor asked Mr. Israel to contact Signarama to obtain a "mock up" of the proposed signs and inquire whether Signarama would be willing to reduce their price. Mr. Israel will continue to look into sign design and costs and report back to the Board at the April 10, 2024, Board meeting.

SAFETY COMMITTEE: The Clerk reported to the Board, which is also the Safety Committee of the Village, that there were no incidents this quarter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:54 p.m. to discuss potential litigation.

03/15/2024

The Board returned to public session at 8:17 pm.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL BE HELD AT 6:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024.

Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk

ALSO PRESENT:

Mark Koslovsky, Resident

Belal Ayoub, Resident

Chris Hadjandreas, Planning Board Chairman

Vincent Polsinelli, Resident

Lee Israel, Liaison for Intergovernmental Affairs

Roselyn Moreno, Kanan Productions, Inc.

Karel Schurman, Kanan Productions, Inc.