

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting held on February 27, 2020 at 7:30PM

Present: Timothy Egan, Mayor
Tara Burek, Andrew Giacomazza, Jesus Gomez and Christopher Graziano, Trustees
Absent: None
Also Present: Richard Golden, Attorney for the Village; Robert Weyant, Village Streets
Superintendent; Michael Phillips, Water/Wastewater Administrator; Jessica McClennan,
Deputy Village Clerk

I. Public Hearings:

a. Introductory Local Law 1 of 2020 – Tax Cap Override:

A public hearing was held to entertain public comment on Introductory Local Law 1 of 2020 entitled "Tax Cap Override". This law would authorize the Village Board to override the property tax cap as defined in Section 3-c of General Municipal Law, for fiscal year 2020/2021, if needed. The public notice was printed in the Times Herald Record on February 19, 2020 and the following comments were received:

Mayor Egan stated the budget is still being prepared. Meetings with department heads are being held next week and the Board will be meeting on March 9 to review the budget. This public hearing is required in case the budget exceeds the tax cap, which is 1.78% for FY2020/2021.

With no further comments received, a motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Burek, to close the public hearing.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

Motion was then offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Burek, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a resolution was duly adopted by the Village of Woodbury Board of Trustees on February 13, 2020, scheduling a public hearing to be held by said Governing Body on February 27, 2020 at 7:30PM, to hear all interested parties on a proposed local law entitled "Tax Cap Override" in the Village of Woodbury; and

WHEREAS, on February 13, 2020, the Board of Trustees designated itself as Lead Agency with respect to the SEQRA review of the foregoing proposed local law, preliminarily classified the proposed action as an Unlisted action under SEQRA, and scheduled a SEQRA public hearing with respect to the action; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing was duly advertised in the Times Herald-Record, the official newspaper of said Village, on February 19, 2020 according to law; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held on February 27, 2020 at 7:30PM at the Village of Woodbury Village Hall, located at 455 Route 32, Highland Mills, New York, and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to said proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has reviewed the proposed local law, the environmental assessment form prepared in connection therewith, and considered the public comment provided at the aforesaid public hearings, and after due deliberation thereon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Woodbury that:

- 1) the proposed local law constitutes an Unlisted action pursuant to SEQRA;
- 2) the proposed local law has no significant adverse environmental impacts and the Board of Trustees hereby issues a negative declaration thereon;

- 3) the adoption of the proposed local law is in the best interests of the residents of the Village, and the Board of Trustees hereby adopts said Local Law No. 1 of 2020, entitled “Tax Cap Override”; and
- 4) the Village Clerk is hereby directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and in the Local Law Book of the Village of Woodbury, and to give due notice of the adoption of said Local Law to the Secretary of State of New York.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

Mayor Egan stated the Board can then hold a public hearing to repeal this law if the budget was come in below the tax cap.

b. Orange County Community Development FY2021:

A public hearing is held to solicit suggestions for projects to be submitted for funding through the Orange County Community Development program for FY2021. The public notice was printed in the Times Herald Record on February 19, 2020 and the following suggestions were received:

Trustee Graziano suggested acquisition of real property to be applied for funding but did not specify what real property or for what purpose.

Clerk Potvin suggested that software be purchased for the Building Department to assist them when they are out in field. The program would enable them to have real time data on site while doing inspections and code enforcement.

Robin Crouse stated any project that would help improve the water/sewer infrastructure should be considered for funding – specifically noting catch basins, filtration systems, additional lines or improvements to pump stations. She also feels the entrance way into Village Hall needs to be addressed – specifically the sidewalks that are crumbling and in her opinion are not safe.

With no further suggestions received, a motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Burek, to close the public hearing.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

The Village of Woodbury Board of Trustees supports Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the New York State Human Rights Law. It is the policy of Village of Woodbury Board of Trustees to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, nationality, familial status, marital or domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for military service, mental or physical disability, perceived disability, AIDS/HIV status and Lawful Income or Source of Lawful Rent Payment (Section 8). The Village of Woodbury Board of Trustees further objects to discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, handicap or disability as prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the New York State Human Rights Law. Therefore, the Village of Woodbury Board of Trustees do hereby approve the following resolution by motion made by Trustee Giacomazza, and seconded by Trustee Burek:

BE IT RESOLVED, that within available resources, the Village of Woodbury will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against under one of the aforementioned categories, to seek equity under federal and state laws by filing a complaint with the New York State Human Rights Law and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Woodbury shall publicize this resolution and through this publicity shall cause owners of real estate, developers, and builders to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law, the New York State Human Rights Law, and any local laws or ordinances.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the municipality will at a minimum include, but not be limited to: (1) the printing and publicizing of this resolution, a fair housing public notice and other applicable fair housing information through local media, community contacts and placement on the Municipal website and in other social media; (2) distribution of posters, flyers, and any other means which will bring to the attention of those affected, the knowledge of their respective responsibilities and rights concerning equal opportunity in housing

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

Mayor Egan stated the Board with the Village Engineer will review the projects suggested at this meeting to determine which would be eligible for funding. A decision will be rendered at the next meeting at which time a formal resolution as required by the grant application will be considered.

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only *No comments were received.*

III. Administrative Business:

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Gomez, to accept receipt of the minutes of the meeting held February 13, 2020.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Trustee Gomez, seconded by Trustee Giacomazza, to approve Abstract 18 containing vouchers 191491 – 191575 and totaling \$388,353.43.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

c. Schedule Worksession – Board Budget Review – March 9, 2020 at 7:30PM:

Motion was offered by Trustee Burek, seconded by Trustee Graziano, to schedule a special meeting to be held on March 9, 2020 at 7:30PM for the Board to meet to review the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2020/2021.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

IV. Old Business: *There was no old business to discuss.*

V. New Business:

a. Discussion – Grant Writer Proposal:

A proposal was received from Millennium Strategies to be grant writers for the Village. The cost would be \$36,000 annually regardless of how many grants are applied for. Trustee Giacomazza and Clerk Potvin met with the account representative earlier this month and both were impressed with their success rate (State Grant 45%, Federal Grants 30%) and proposal. TE stated he spoke to the deputy county executive of Rockland County about his experience with them and he highly recommends them.

Motion was then offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Burek, to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with Millennium Strategies LLC for grant writing services for one year at a cost of \$36,000.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

b. Addition to Third-Party Electrical Inspector List – Tri-State Inspection Agency:

Motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Gomez, to approve the addition of Tri-State Inspection Agency to the Village’s Third-Party Electrical Inspector list maintained by the Building Department.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

c. Acceptance Slate of Officer – Fire Chiefs:

This item was tabled as it was sent to the Village Board prematurely by the Central Valley Fire Company.

VI. Public Comment:

Neil Crouse stated recently, between Town Hall and Jays going south on Route 32, there is a new speed curtailing digital sign that was been erected. He feels this is a great tool to reducing speaking on Route 32 and he would like to see more purchased and placed in more locations permanently. He was told that the Town Police Department is the entity that erected the temporary sign and that the sign is placed at different locations where reports of speeding have occurred.

Donald Siebold stated there is a section of County Route 105 that has a lot of liter due to the recyclables not being collected this week. He is not sure who would be responsible to enforce the clean-up of this but feels it needs to be addressed. Mayor Egan stated he would speak to the Building Department about the issue tomorrow.

VII. Board Member/Department Comment:

Mayor Egan stated earlier this week he attended the Orange County Sewer District #1 Advisory Committee meeting in Goshen and like the one he reported on that was held in January, many Mayors and Supervisors were in attendance. The representative from Delaware Engineering discussed with the committee the two primary options they are focusing on for sewer services. The two options are Longevity Improvements as a standalone project and Capacity Expansion of the Harriman Wastewater Treatment Plant from six million gallons per day to nine million. The committee focused on the second option but are examining ways in which to also include longevity projects. This would provide the County and local municipalities with more options, but of course will cost more money. The cost and financing of this project will be discussed further at a later meeting once they narrow their options. He explained to the committee the Village’s current and near future capacity needs and asked them if the extra three million gallons per day would be enough for future projected growth. They responded they need detailed information from the local municipalities in the districts served by the Harriman Wastewater Treatment Plant and they thanked the Village for being proactive in that regard. They are meeting again next month and he plans to continue attending to make sure the Village’s needs are considered. Trustee Graziano stated he feels the County should divvy up the cost for the upgrade like they do for the sales tax and Mayor Egan stated there was a discussion about only those that will be

utilizing the additional capacity should be required to pay for it and those that do not need the extra no having to pay.

Trustee Graziano then stated when he chose to run for office he did so for a reason and he thanked those that voted for him. He is getting aggravated about something and he stressed he does not now or will ever owe anyone anything. He is here to serve the residents and will continue to do so. He also feels those that were elected to serve need to “walk the walk”. He feels the Board needs a moratorium on building, the comprehensive plan needs to be reviewed by creating a committee to do so and the water/sewer capacity needs to be analyzed. He also feels that all decisions need to be mad openly and transparently so the public can se what the Board does and how/why it is doing it. He takes his position seriously and the way it has always been done is not the way to move Woodbury forward.

Trustee Gomez thanked all for attending the meeting this evening. He noted campaign season is starting which he finds odd as it feels like he only just assumed office. He stressed the Trustees are here for the residents to help them. He feels posting things on social media does not solve an issue and he encouraged everyone to call Village Hall to get their answers.

Trustee Burek also thanked all for attending the meeting this evening. She announced there is a blood drive that will be held at Village Hall on March 21, 9AM-3PM, in memory of Michael Hansen. This is something that is very dear to her as her daughter needed blood transfusions when she was bore prematurely. She urged everyone in the community to donate if they are able to do so.

Trustee Giacomazza thanked Samantha Armstrong and the St. Patrick’s Church finance committee for another successful “Taste of Woodbury” event held earlier this week. During his last campaign he spoke about being more accessible the public. Based on this he will be planning an “Open House” at which two members from each Board (Village, Planning and Zoning) with Building Inspector Thomasberger will be available for a Q&A session for anyone in the public to come and ask any question they may have. He would like to have it scheduled for the end of March and hopes to have at least two sessions a year. He will be sure to publicize it on social media and things this will be a good way for the public communicate with its representatives.

Clerk Potvin announced some events the Woodbury Lions Club are holding – collection of plastic for a community bench and selling chocolate bunnies.

VIII. Adjournment:

With no further comments received or business to discuss a motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Burke, adjourn the meeting at 8:00PM.

ADOPTED	AYES	5	Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
	NOES	0	

Desiree Potvin, Village Clerk

8PM – 1AM Attorney/Client Session with Attorney for the Village

Local Law No. 1 of 2020
Village of Woodbury, County of Orange

A local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to allow the Village of Woodbury to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2020 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government’s governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Woodbury, County of Orange, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2020 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 4. Severability

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court’s order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.