

Minutes of the Virtual Village Board Meeting held on May 13, 2021 at 7:30PM

Present: Timothy Egan, Mayor  
Tara Burek, Andrew Giacomazza, Jesus Gomez and Christopher Graziano, Trustees  
Absent: None  
Also Present: Robert Weyant, Village Streets Superintendent; Michael Phillips, Water/Wastewater Administrator; John Hand, Assistant Building Inspector; Pasquale Prozzillo and Christopher Burke, Fire Chiefs; Christopher Gerver and Sandra Capriglione, Planning Board

**I. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only:** *No public comments were received.*

**II. Administrative Business:**

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Burek, to accept receipt of the minutes of the meeting held April 22, 2021.

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

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Trustee Gomez, seconded by Trustee Graziano, to approve Abstract 23 containing vouchers 201904 – 202014 and totaling \$200,270.72.

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

c. Authorize Mayor and Clerk to Sign – FY2021/2022 Tax Collection Warrant:

Motion was offered by Trustee Graziano, seconded by Trustee Burek, to authorize the Mayor and Village Clerk to sign the FY2021/2022 Tax Collection Warrant.

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

d. Approve Budget Modifications:

Motion was offered by Trustee Gomez, seconded by Trustee Giacomazza, to approve the following modifications to the FY2020/2021 General Fund budget:

- Various Department – increasing A1010.414 (VB Lates Fees on Invoices) by \$2, A1330.411 (Tx Coll – Office Supplies) by \$46, A1410.411 (VC – Office Supplies) by \$247, A1440.401 (Engineer – Contractual) by \$17,000, A1440.402 (Engineer – Planning Board) by \$3000, A1460.411 (Records Mngt Supplies) by \$110, A1610.406 (Gen – Buildings/Grounds) by \$1600, A1610.407 (Gen – Heat/Air Use/Main) by \$3000, A3410.401 (FD – Telephone) by \$1500, A3410.416 (FD – Uniform/Access) by \$26, A3410.464 (FD – Jaws Testing) by \$326, A3410.472 (FD – Air Compress Service) by \$450, A8010.454 (ZBA – Advertising) by \$83, A9025.800 (Service Award) by \$2848, A9050.800 (Unemployment) by \$8000 and decreasing A1010.403 (VB – Videographer) by \$1856, A1010.411 (VB – Office Supplies) by \$500, A1010.430 (VB – Transportation/Travel) by \$100, A1010.444 (VB – Schools/Dues) by \$100, A1210.430 (Mayor – Trans/Travel) by \$100, A1330.401 (Tx Coll – Telephone) by \$250, A1410.435 (VC – Law Book Supplements) by \$5030, A1410.436 (VC – Website) by \$2500, A1410.454 (VC – Advertising) by \$2000, A1420.401 (Attorney – Contractual) by \$23,500, A3410.448 (FD – Operations) by \$2302;

- Building Department – increasing A3620.200 (BD – Equipment) by \$1700 and decreasing A3620.463 (BD – Software) by \$1700;
- Highway Department – increasing A5010.420 (HD – Electronic Collection) by \$255, A5010.422 (HD – Drug Testing) by \$216, A5010.423 (HD – Safety Equipment) by \$103, A5110.407 (HD – Traffic Control) by \$3835, A5110.448 (HD – Miscell Repairs) by \$91, A5110.469 (HD – Drainage Pipe) by \$13,000, A5130.447 (HD – Truck Parks/Repairs) by \$6000, A5130.455 (HD – Tires) by \$548, A5140.425 (HD – Grounds/Weeds) by \$5267, A5142.447 (HD – Snow Truck Repairs) by \$901 and decreasing A5142.452 (HD – Road Salt) by \$30,216.

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

Motion was offered by Trustee Burek, seconded by Trustee Graziano, to approve the following modifications to the FY2020/2021 Water/Sewer budget:

- Consolidated Water – increasing FC8310.423 (Safety Equipment) by \$400, FC8310.442 (Lab Testing) by \$6210, FC8310.466 (Generator Service) by \$735, FC9050.800 (Unemployment) by \$1186 and decreasing FC8310.402 (Electric) by \$8531;
- Water 6 (Amdur Park) – increasing FA8310.402 (Electric) by \$2000, FA8310.442 (Lab Testing) by \$2 and decreasing FA8310.441 (Sludge Removal) by \$2000, FA8310.434 (Contracts/Permits) by \$2
- Consolidated Sewer – increasing GC8110.201 (Equipment – Pumps) by \$53,700, GC8110.439 (OC Sewer District) by \$19,534, GC8110.464 (Generator Fuel) by \$100, GC9050.800 (Unemployment) by \$1186 and decreasing GC8110.402 (Electricity) by \$17,300, GC8110.415 (Engineer) by \$20,000, GC8110.422 (Blacktop) by \$5000, GC8110.481 (Sewer Lease) by \$8660, GC9010.800 (State Retirement) by \$1000, GC9060.801 (Hospital/Medical) by \$21,000, GC9060.802 (Dental) by \$1560;
- Valley Forge (Sewer 1) – increasing GV8110.438 (O & M) by \$2200, GV8110.466 (Generator Service) by \$1200 and decreasing GV8110.402 (Electricity) by \$1000, GV8110.422 (Blacktop) by \$2000, GV9030.800 (Social Security/FICA) by \$400.

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

e. Fire Department Equipment Request:

Motion was offered by Trustee Graziano, seconded by Trustee Burek, to approve Fire Department Equipment Request 2021-15 totaling approximately \$2004.95 for the purchase of forcible entry kits, power saw and blades for saw.

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

EXTRA ITEM – Appointment of MEO:

Motion was offered by Trustee Gomez, seconded by Trustee Burek, to approve the appointment of Robert Beckley to the position of MEO in the Highway Department effective June 1, 2021. This is a full-time position (40 hours per week) and is paid \$28.17/hour.

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

**III. New Business:**

a. Building Permit Fee Waiver Request – NY Blood Center at Woodbury Common:

Mayor Egan stated a request was received from David Mistretta, General Manager of the Woodbury Common, requesting a building permit fee waiver. The NY Blood Center are no longer able to utilize their mobile donation centers due to COVID and they are looking to use one of the vacant spaces at the mall. Mr. Mistretta notes in his email that the Woodbury Common is making no money on the vacant space that will be used as they feel it is the right thing to do for the community by supporting this initiative. Motion was then offered by Trustee Burek, seconded by Trustee Graziano, to waive the building permit fee for the NY Blood Center location at the Woodbury Common.

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

b. Authorize Mayor to Sign – Renewal Services Agreement – Munistat Financial Services:

Motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Graziano, to authorize the Mayor to sign the renewed Advisor Services Agreement with Munistat Financial Services.

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

c. Authorize Mayor to Sign – FY2021/2022 Liability Insurance Renewal:

Motion was offered by Trustee Graziano, seconded by Trustee Burek, to authorize the Mayor to sign the liability insurance renewal policy totaling \$145,469.40.

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

d. Request from Planning Board – Amendment to Sign Regulations:

Mayor Egan stated a request was received from the Planning Board asking the Village Board to consider a revision to Section 310-30(D)(1)(e) of the Zoning Code. The Planning Board would like the ability to waive the restriction of four colors per sign depending on (1) if the proposed additional colors are or are not considered distracting by the Planning Board and (2) if the proposed additional colors include shades of the same color. Mayor Egan stated he agrees with this suggestion and this has been a “pet peeve” of his for many years, especially for companies that have fixed logos. The Board members agreed, adding that the application for Aldi’s took way to long. Motion was then offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Graziano, to authorize the Village Attorney to draft a local law with the language requested by the Planning Board to amend Section 310-30(D)(1)(e).

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

EXTRA ITEM – Building Permit Waiver Request – Town of Woodbury:

Mayor Egan stated a letter was received from Frank Palermo, Woodbury Town Supervisor, requesting the Board consider waiving the building permit fee for Phase 3 of the renovations the Town is doing on their Courthouse. Motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Gomez, to waive the building permit fee for Phase 3 of the Town of Woodbury Courthouse renovations.

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

EXTRA ITEM – Authorize Village Clerk to Call for Civil Service List – Building Inspector:

Motion was offered by Trustee Graziano, seconded by Trustee Burek, to authorize the Village Clerk to call for the Civil Service list from the County’s Department of Human Resources to canvas for the position of Building Inspector.

**ADOPTED**      AYES    4            Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano  
                     NOES    1            Egan

Mayor Egan stated the process that is required to be followed, as dictated by the County’s Civil Service procedure, will cause an appointment to not be possible until the June 10 meeting, at the earliest. He also reminded the Board how this position was budgeted for in the FY2021/2022 budget.

**IV. Old Business:**

a. Further Discussion – Realignment of Turner Road – Courtyard by Marriot/Rainbow Group:

Mayor Egan stated this application was first discussed by the Board at its March 11, 2021 meeting. Late last month, Steven Esposito (engineer for the applicant) submitted a letter with an updated preliminary site plans for this project. As a result of their recent submission to the Planning Board, the Planning Board attorney stated they must obtain confirmation from the Village Board that proceeding with the realignment of Turner Road is acceptable. The plan would include the dedication of a portion of land to the Village currently owned by the applicant. It was noted further the plans have been developed in conjunction with NYSDOT, the Village’s traffic consultant and emergency services. Modification to Turner Road and its right-of-way are under the jurisdiction of the Village Board. Mr. Esposito explained the site plan to the Board and detailed the area that would be dedicated to the Village, the area that would be dedicated to the NYSDOT and the parts that will be renovated, including a left turn lane on the southbound side of Route 32. He noted again this is standard procedure to correct the older plans that were drawn based on the “travel way”. Village Traffic Consultant Richard D’Andrea stated he is in agreement with what the applicant is proposing and agrees it makes sense for this project. He noted there are still some specific details that will need to be worked out with the NYSDOT and the Planning Board. William Frank, attorney for the applicant, stated they are trying to move the project forward based on the direction provided by the Planning Board and its consultants. He noted if the Village Board is agreeable to this plan, an irrevocable offer of dedication will be made and once all the work is done, and signed off by Village consultants, the Board can formalize their decision. Superintendent Weyant noted he was not provided any information regarding the proposed renovation and he would like the opportunity to review the plans so he can provide comments. The Board members also had questions but since the Village attorney was not present for the meeting, Mayor Egan recommended tabling the issue to the next meeting and the Board agreed.

**V. Public Comment:**      *No public comments were received.*

**VI. Board Member/Department Comment:**

Mayor Egan thanked all for attending the meeting this evening. He noted May 9 – 15 is National Police Week, a time to honor our law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation and those that keep us safe every day of the year. He thanked police officers everywhere, especially the members of the Woodbury Police Department. Yesterday, being the birthday of Florence Nightingale, ended National Nurses Week and he thanked all the nurses. Next week is National EMS week – a week set aside every year to recognize EMT’s and paramedics who provide emergency medical services in communities across the country. He noted it is a time to recognize and honor EMS professionals for their tireless dedication to their communities. Since the pandemic started many EMT’s and paramedics became sick, and some have lost their lives, just from doing their jobs or volunteering for their communities. He then noted, based on information provided by the New York Conference of Mayors, the Village is slated to receive \$1,473,403 through the American Rescue Plan to respond to the COVID-19 to strengthen support for vital public services. One of the intended uses for this funding is to invest in water/sewer infrastructure and to make necessary

improvements to improve access to clean drinking water, and to support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. Once the funds are received the Board will discuss the best use of the funds. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Trustee Graziano thanked all for attending the meeting this evening. He noted next week is the school budget/board member vote. Voting is one of the greatest rights we have, and he urged all to vote and have their voices heard. He then noted today it was reported that restrictions are beginning to relax a bit as the numbers reduce. The CDC issued some new recommendations today, unfortunately NYS has not yet grasped onto these. He asked everyone suffering from “COVID fatigue” to stay calm and keep doing what they are doing. He urged all to get vaccinated.

Trustee Gomez thanked all for attending the meeting this evening. He also thanked all the Department Heads and employees for all they do for the community. He then thanked the members of the Woodbury Police Department and all law enforcements agencies throughout the nation. He asked all to take a moment in their day to say “hi”, give a quick smile or say “thank you” to a cop if you pass by one. This little gesture will mean more than you know with the way that society is going nowadays and the lack of respect that is shown to each other. He reminded that to get respect you must earn it, show it and give it – it goes both ways. He added the use of violence is never the answer, the time to fight is in the courtroom. The judicial system may not be perfect but as a nation we are trying to improve it so it is fair for everyone.

Trustee Burek thanked everyone for attending the meeting this evening. She then noted May is Mental Health Awareness month. It is meant to shed light on different mental illnesses that exist, to raise awareness about the importance of mental health, and to help people become comfortable talking about mental health. This is all an effort to help end the stigma surrounding it. This is the time of year where many people focus on providing support, education and advocacy for policies that support these people and their families. She noted we need to find ways to stay connected with those vulnerable populations within our communities whether they are family members or neighbors – raise awareness today to end the stigma of tomorrow. She then noted next week is her daughter’s 5<sup>th</sup> birthday and she is proud of who she has become, adding she is the most resilient individual she knows.

Trustee Giacomazza thanked all for attending this evening. He noted our local restaurants struggled during the pandemic to adjust their business plans to be there for our community – whether it be to pivot by offering outdoor seating or adjusting their indoor layouts to accommodate capacity restrictions. Now they are facing understaffing – some so severely they need to reduce their hours or will need to close their businesses. He plans to sit down with these business owners and Board members to see what the Village can do for them in their time of need. He noted it is now time for the community to be there for them as they have always been there for us.

**8:20PM – Executive Session:**

Motion was offered by Trustee Gomez, seconded by Trustee Giacomazza, to enter into an executive session pursuant to Public Officers Law to discuss one item relating to the possible promotion of an individual.

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

No action will be taken in executive session and the meeting will be adjourned upon its conclusion.

**VII. Adjournment:**

With no further business to conduct or comments received, a motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Gomez, to end the executive session and adjourn the meeting at 8:50PM.

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

Desiree Potvin, Village Clerk