



Village of Southampton

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Board of Trustees

MINUTES

January 25, 2022 - 6:00 PM

Call to Order:

Start Meeting Time: 6:09 PM

Present:

Mayor Jesse Warren, Trustee Gina Arresta, Trustee Joseph McLoughlin, Trustee Roy Stevenson, Trustee Robin Brown, Village Administrator Charlene Kagel-Betts, Village Attorney Kenneth Gray, Village Clerk Cathy Sweeney, Assistant to the Mayor Miranda Weber and Audio/Visual Coordinator Katherine Styler

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Mayor Warren

Public Comment:

The Village of Southampton's Board of Trustees Meeting on Thursday, January 25, 2022 @ 6:00pm will be taking place via ZOOM.

The meeting will be live streamed and a transcript will be provided at a later date.

To join the Board Meeting via Zoom, you must register in advance to:

mweber@southamptonvillage.org prior to 12:00PM on the aforementioned date.

To view the meeting LIVE go to: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwDidTdhkHXbspR0hkoxH4g>

NOTE: Due to public health and safety concerns related to COVID-19 and in accordance with Governor Hochul's approved legislation (Ch. 1 of the Laws of 2022 amends Sections 1 and 2 of Part # of Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2021 which amended Article 7 of the Public Officers Law) extending virtual access to public meetings under New York State's Open Meetings Law.

The Village of Southampton's Board of Trustees Meetings will take place remotely and without in-person access during the COVID-19 state disaster emergency.

No public comment during the work session.

Board Presentations:

1. 2022 Environmental Priorities ~ Rob Coburn and Tom Louthan, Co-Chairs, Environmental Committee slipped from 1.13.2022

- Reviewed and provide context for materials that were sent previously to the BOT

- Reviewed Updated environmental priorities which were sent in November and approved and adopted in December
- Reviewed Updated management plans for Lake Agawam and Old Town and Wickapogue Ponds
- Documentation provided starting on Page 2 of the agenda

2. Treasurer's Report ~ Charlene Kagel-Betts, CPA Village Administrator/Treasurer

- See agenda documents page 23

3. Height Restrictions Overview ~ Bill Manger

- To save time, Mayor Warren suggested Bill conduct his brief presentation during the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing :

1. Public Hearing regarding Local Law 1-2022, the proposal to amend Village Code Section §116-12(G) Height Restrictions and to add a new Sub-section, §116-12(I) Retaining Walls of the Village Code.

Motion to open the public hearing (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion to close the public hearing (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

Public Hearing Correspondence:

Steven Klinsky ~ Coopers Neck Lane

- It feels that reducing FEMA, plus 40 feet by two feet, is not restrictive enough. Would like to be more like the Sagaponack rule. People have to be more conservative about how they build based on their lot.

Mark Picaad ~ Meadowmere Place

- Thank you to the Mayor, the BOT and Bill Manger for all the information and work.. I agree with Steven Klinsky and feel that any change to the reduction is a good change. With respect to the retaining walls, I have a problem with flooding due to the runoff from a neighboring house that I believe is a direct reflection of these walls being built on this property. Thank you for giving us a forum. Hopefully, we can enact some changes not adopted by prior administrations.

Gabriella Leff ~ Meadowmere Lane

- My family bought our property in 1968 and we have seen a lot of changes in our neighborhood, so I agree with Steve and Mark. Restructions could be even stronger. I get runoff from the property next to me and my property is always flooding. It doesn't have to be a nor'easter , just a regular rain storm. The nature of our neighborhood has changed so much already , there is nothing wrong with keeping things a little more conservative. Thank you for listening to us local, neighboring village people , who have been

taking care of our land and homes for all these years.

Peter Campbell ~ Coopers Neck Lane

- My extended family has been at this property since the early 90's. I echo the comments from the other neighbors that have spoken. These kinds of issues have been coming up in the ARB and Zoning boards of appeals over and over again. If you go back to the minutes of those meetings, you would see overwhelming support for these changes. The last few years, we have seen 50-foot houses approved with grade being 12 feet high, creating very imposing structures that are not in line with the character of Southampton.

Maureen Sherry ~ Coopers Neck Lane

- I am a neighbor of Peter's and have been here since 1996. We are thrilled that we are having this conversation finally. This has unified our neighborhood, as this is one thing that we have been seeing year after year. I applaud that you could possibly be a part of a legacy that is going to stop it. These houses are going to be here for a long time after all of us. We have to think about what we want to have stood for when we lived in this village.

Kathy Ferguson ~ Meadow Lane

- I agree with all the things that my neighbors have said. I would like to add that we chose to live in Southampton. We have been here since 2000. It's a beautiful neighborhood and the village is charming. These houses are starting to get out of control, they are destroying the ambiance. So I believe these restrictions are a start, and would like them to be a little more restrictive, as to not let our village morph into something that is not beautiful.

Mayor Warren ~ We are happy to do this to support our residents and to make sure we hear the concerns of our neighborhoods and community members.

Avril Mortimer ~ Coopers Neck Rd

- Thank You Mayor, BOT and Bill Manger for your excellent summary on the study. I echo comments from my neighbors. It takes just one large oversized structure to appreciate the full impact of the implications of the FEMA rules that were referenced. It has a compounding effect, like the one that was approved yesterday. It has an irrevocable and irreversible effect on the whole neighborhood. I would ask the committee to be mindful just how impactful the height restrictions are and the impact they have on the environment.

1. 1a. To be read at the Public Hearing #1 ~ correspondence from Gil Flanagan
2. 1b. To be read at the Public Hearing #1 ~ correspondence from Bennett & Read
3. 1c. To be read at the Public Hearing #1 ~ correspondence from By The Hedges, LLC
4. 1d. To be read at the Public Hearing #1 ~ correspondence from Steven M. Loeb, Meadow Lane Trust
5. 1e. To be read at the Public Hearing #1 ~ correspondence from RJ Brickell
6. 1f. To be read at the Public Hearing #1 ~ correspondence from Christopher LaGuardia

Communications to the Board:

1. Correspondence from Diane Englander

Discussion Items:

1. Gas Leaf Blower Panel ~ Trustee Arresta

Trustee Arresta ~

- Recommend to create a panel which comprises a broad stroke of many different opinions regarding gas leaf blowers.

Suggested Resolutions:

1. RESOLVED, that the claims for the warrant dated January 25, 2022 totaling \$179,960.43 (Warrant #A-12 - General Fund), \$119.66 (Warrant #T-13 - Trust Fund) and \$800.00 (Warrant #CS-3 - CS Trust Fund) be audited and approved.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

2. RESOLVED, the reading of the minutes for the Public Session of January 13, 2022 be dispensed with and those minutes be accepted as filed by the Village Clerk and the actions taken at that meeting are hereby ratified and approved.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

3. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees re-appoints Jacqueline Allen to the position of Office Assistant as approved by Civil Service in the Building Department, at a salary of \$59,600 effective January 14, 2022
IS AMENDED TO READ:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees reinstates Jacqueline Allen to the position of Office Assistant as approved by Civil Service in the Building Department to reflect the correct salary per CSEA Salary Schedule of \$68,747.83.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Joseph McLoughlin.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

4. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees (Board) of the Incorporated Village of Southampton (Village) hereby approves the Local Law 1-2022, the proposal to amend Village Code Section §116-12(G) Height Restrictions and to add a new Sub-section, §116-12(I) Retaining Walls of the Village Code.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Joseph McLoughlin.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

5. RESOLVED, The Board of Trustees creates the Gas Leaf Blower Task Force to discuss and develop solutions and make recommendations to the Village Board to alleviate noise from Gas Leaf Blowers. The landscaper community is represented by Don Mahoney, Cyndi McNamara, and Wayne Swaitocha. The environmental community represented by is to be determined. Moderated by Attorney Ken Gray.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

6. RESOLVED, The Board of Trustee approves the attached Budget modification BOT# 319, (transfer between lines) to cover various budget lines for Police Retirement, Ambulance Overtime and Zoning Expenditures, totaling \$123,900

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

7. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the agreement with CGR Promising Solutions to perform a study of the DPW Department and is desirous of expanding the scope of work to include the Justice Court review at a of \$8,500, for services paid by Trustee Special Projects A1010.433.

Motion to Table was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Roy Stevenson.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

Mayoral Appointments:

None Noted.

Comments from Board Members:

Trustee Arresta ~

- Thank you to Tom, Rob and Holly, John and Danila for the terrific report. It's great that the village is moving forward and making progress regarding our environmental issues.
- Thank you to Bill Mamger for all the hard work on this very sensitive height restriction issue.
- The start of the 2022-2023 Zero-Based Budget will begin with department heads coming in and learning how to implement everything into the system themselves.
- Finally, the EV Stations will be installed and final installation should be completed in about two weeks.
- Everyone is aware of the Nor'Easter hitting our area on Saturday . Our DPW will be prepared and ready.

As a reminder to all, please do not park on the street, also restaurant and storeowners, please remember to bring in all items outside your store fronts.

- Everyone, please stay safe.

Trustee Brown ~

- I echo and thank Rob and Tom from the environmental committee for the very clear presentation.
- Thank you Bill for your hard work and insight.
- Also, I would like to thank our public because we do value your opinion as we do take it to heart.
- Wishing everyone a good evening.

Trustee McLoughlin ~

- I echo the sentiments of Trustee Brown regarding the presentation. Rob and Tom do great work.
- Thank you to the former Trustee Manger working hard these last few months and his willingness to close the loop holes in our building code, which is very vital to our quality of life.
- I would also like to offer my condolences to the Price Family on the passing of Norman Price. He was a Veteran of the Southampton Fire Department and a steward of the community and his church. He will be missed.

Trustee Stevenson ~

- Citizens come face to face with the village government, including Land Use Boards. The Planning Board, ARB, Zoning Board of Appeals and our Building Department, all work together to help residents with their property issues.
- We've gone through a difficult period with staffing, along with an increased interest in our area. So we have struggled admittedly. Now I feel we are on the right track in terms of providing the best service for our community members when they have issues that need to be addressed. Thanks to all in those departments.
- Hopefully, the news reports that this plague that has deflected all of us may be going away, but mean while everyone stay safe.

Mayor Warren ~

- In our resolutions tonight, we reappointed Jackie Allen. Jackie has been a true blessing to the village and the Building Department. She has been a steady hand and we are extremely lucky to have her continue to stay with us and help lead the Building Department forward.
- Many people will be happy to see our Village Planner, Alex Wallach. He has a wide breadth of experience and, hopefully, with his help, we will make the process of applying at the building Department a more seamless process. We are very excited he is joining our team.
- The budgetary process is underway and after hearing from our Administrator - Treasurer we are cautiously optimistic. We have some headwinds coming our way. We are dealing with a \$ 107,000.00 sweetener that was handed down to us from a prior contract, and an additional increase in NYSHIP. We will continue to work with our treasurer to figure out ways to eliminate waste and improve our governmental efficiencies. We want to be able to provide cost-effective services to our village residents in order to provide them with a tax bill which reflects those services.
- The Draw Down festival this weekend was very exciting. It's all about regeneration, a new approach to

climate change.

- We will be having a public hearing about the New York Stretch codes.. We are anxiously awaiting the implementation of our electric charging stations.
- I think it would make sense that at each work session we have a different committee come and present to us the work that we are doing.
- We had a great update from the environmental and clean water committee.

Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contractual, litigation and specific Village personnel matters.

Motion to Move to Executive Session (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

Return to Public Session:

Motion to Return from Executive Session to Public Session Approve was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

Time: 9:27 PM

Resolutions, if any:

1. WHEREAS, Lee Pulliam ("Pulliam"), shield number 258, is employed by the Village as a Police Officer; and
WHEREAS, on or about January 25, 2022, Acting Police Chief Suzanne Hurteau preferred disciplinary charges against Officer Pulliam; now, therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED, that, effective January 26, 2022, Officer Pulliam is hereby suspended for a period of thirty (30) calendar days, without pay, and that said suspension shall commence on January 26, 2022, and shall continue through and including February 25, 2022.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion to Adjourn (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Joseph McLoughlin, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson

No: None Abstain: None

End Meeting Time: 9:29 PM

