

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF SOUTHAMPTON - BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC SESSION I – March 12, 2020

Due notice having been given, the Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Southampton Village Hall, 23 Main Street, Southampton, New York at 6:00PM.

Present were Mayor Warren, Trustees Allan, Parash, Pilaro and Yastrzemski; Village Administrator Russell Kratoville and Assistant Village Attorney Alexandra Halsey Storch

Mayor Warren opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor made announcements regarding the COVID-19, Coronavirus and provided warnings and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control, the Governor's Office and Suffolk County.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Mayor Warren acknowledged the March Employee of the Month: Mauricio Espinoza, Custodial/Maintenance Mechanic II, Buildings Maintenance Department, hired March 31, 2015. Mayor Warren thanked Mr. Espinoza for his service and hard work.

Mayor Warren welcomed Brian Egan as the new Village Attorney, saying he is also the attorney for the Village of Patchogue and the Village of Port Jefferson and looked forward to working with him.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Don Sullivan, Southampton Chamber of Commerce, resident and business owner of Southampton Publick House said he was attending on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. He stated that the Chamber is making a concerted effort to be more communicative with the Board and are excited about the efforts being made with the business district.

Georgette Grier-Key, attending in support of the Southampton African American Museum and the Pyrrhus Concer Action Committee. Ms. Grier-Key reviewed some of her credentials including being president of LI Historical Societies, and said as a historian and one of the lead organizers of Pyrrhus Concer Action Committee and SAAM that she wanted to commend the Board on taking the necessary steps to move the process forward. Ms. Grier-Key said that she was also in attendance to show her support of Nicole Christian and urged the Board to appoint her as grant writer for the project.

BOARD PRESENTATIONS:

1. NJC Consulting – Nicole J. Christian

Ms. Christian introduced herself and acknowledged that she has worked with Village Attorney Brian Egan for the Village of Port Jefferson. Ms. Christian then gave an overview of her 15 years of experience in grant writing and reviewed some of the successes that she has had securing grants, notably securing a grant for \$1.4million for the restoration of Sag Harbor Cinema. Following her presentation, a brief discussion with members of the Board asking questions took place.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Ethics Board – Christian Picot

Mr. Picot welcomed Village Attorney Brian Egan and gave an overview of what the Ethics Board does, stating that a strong ethics program is the foundation for a transparent government. He stated that the Financial Disclosure Statement is a NY State Law; and reviewed some particular aspects of the Ethics Code including

counsel at some time and asked the Board to consider allowing them to hire someone if needed. Mr. Picot also asked the Mayor to properly renew the terms of the Board of Ethics and said that two members are working within an expired term. He that the Board work harder to find strong candidates for the Board of Ethics, stating that there is a vacancy which needs to be filled and there is a need to appoint a new Chair. Mr. Picot said that the Ethics Committee is required to meet 4 times a year but have met much more frequently during the past couple years. He said that they have had less issues come forward and feels it is due to enhanced training; saying it is important to continue that training. Trustee Allan thanked Mr. Picot for his work and that of the Committee.

The Board decided that as the following requests were all for annual events; resolutions would be included as part of the resolutions that would be reviewed later in the agenda.

2. Southampton Cultural Center – Concerts/Shakespeare in the Park
3. Southampton Chamber of Commerce – 2020 Calendar of Events
4. Southampton PBA – Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 10, 2020
5. Southampton Soccer Club – 2020 Schedule for Downs Family Park
6. Southampton Little League – 2020 Schedule for Downs Family Park
7. USA Endurance Events – Women’s Half Marathon – May 30, 2020 Event Update

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Proposed Local Law: Tax Cap Override

Village Attorney Egan reviewed the proposed law and said it authorizes the Board to pierce the tax cap should a situation arise during the budget process that would necessitate that. Mr. Egan said it was a prophylactic measure that would protect the Board in the event they needed it. Trustee Parash made a motion to open the Public Hearing; Mayor Warren seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. As there were no public comments; Mayor Warren made a motion to close the public hearing; Trustee Pilaro seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

1. NYCOM – Sign-on Letter Opposing Small Cells Siting

Mr. Kratoville reviewed the letter and Mr. Egan said it was a comprehensive letter that is objecting to the proposed state legislation that would effectively eliminate the ability for the Village to object to any cell phone/wireless installation in the Village’s rights of way which are important to the Village. This would allow the Village to maintain local control and the aesthetics.

2. Heart of the Hamptons – Relocation of Food Pantry

Mr. Kratoville reviewed the letter from Hilton Crosby, Heart of the Hamptons requesting that they be considered for the location where the current ambulance building is located and which will be vacant when they move to their new location.

3. Southampton Village Ambulance – Request for Parking Restrictions

Mr. Kratoville reviewed the letter, noting that the SVVA are within 30 days of moving in and have some concerns regarding parking areas. They would like signage installed on parking spots.

4. Brenda Simmons – Letter of Reference for Nicole Christian

Mr. Kratoville reviewed the letter, noting that Brenda Simmons is a long time resident and former employee of the Village and wrote in support of Nicole Christian and encouraged the Board to enter into an agreement.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Kratoville asked if the Board would permit adding two resolutions put forth by Trustee Allan: Mayor Warren made a motion to approve, Trustee Pilaro seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

1. ***RESOLVED, that the reading of the minutes for the Public Session of February 25, 2020 and Special Meeting of March 2, 2020 be dispensed with and that those minutes be accepted as filed by the Village Administrator and that the actions taken at that meeting be and hereby are ratified and approved.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Parash seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

2. ***RESOLVED, that the claims for the warrants dated March 12, 2020 totaling \$900,606.32 (Warrant # 13 - General Fund), \$97,080.31 (Warrant #10 - Capital Reserve Fund) and the Village payrolls for the period from February 14, 2020 to March 12, 2020 be audited and approved.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Parash seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. Mr. Kratoville asked if the Board wanted to make a motion to waive the reading of budget items over \$1,000; Trustee Pilaro made the motion, Mayor Warren seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

3. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached schedule of budget transfers to eliminate line item overages for the period ending March 12, 2020.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Yastrzemski seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

4. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the inter-fund transfer from the General Fund to Capital Reserve for the FYE May 31, 2020.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Parash seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

5. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby adopts Local Law 1 of 2020 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Pilaro seconded the motion and a Roll Call took place with the following results: Trustee Yastrzemski: Aye; Trustee Allan: Aye; Mayor Warren: Aye; Trustee Parash: Aye; Trustee Pilaro: Aye.

6. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves that, with respect to the Village general election to be held on Friday, June 19, 2020, the polling place shall be the Levitas Center (Cultural Center of Southampton), Pond Lane, Southampton, NY and that the polls shall be open from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Pilaro seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

7. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Southampton Village Fire Department 2019 Length of Service Award Program List which has been reviewed and authorized by Chief Stevens and certified by Fire Department Manager Dennis Chuppe.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Yastrzemski seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

8. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the resignation of Robert Devinney from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective March 2, 2020.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Pilaro seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

9. ***RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts the resignation of Curtis Highsmith Jr. from the Board of Architectural Revue and Historic Preservation effective March 9, 2020.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Pilaro seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

10. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the donation of \$1,000.00 from Franz Burda to be expressly used for preservation of the Munn Point Boardwalk in honor of Vincent and Edgar Bohlen.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Parash seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

11. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the donation of \$1,500.00 from JAF Foundation to be expressly used for preservation of the Munn Point Boardwalk in honor of Vincent and Edgar Bohlen.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Parash seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

12. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the donation of \$300.00 from Felicitas and Peter Kohl to be expressly used for preservation of the Munn Point Boardwalk in honor of Vincent and Edgar Bohlen.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Parash seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

13. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve Movie in the Park on July 16, 2020 (Rain date: August 6, 2020) sponsored by the Rogers Memorial Library.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Parash seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

14. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the schedule of the Southampton Cultural Center for the 2020 Concerts and Shakespeare in the Park at Lake Agawam Park.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Pilaro seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

15. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the 2020 Calendar of Events for the Southampton Chamber of Commerce.***

Trustee Pilaro made a motion to approve; Trustee Parash seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

16. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the 2020 Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Southampton PBA.***

Trustee Parash made a motion to approve; Trustee Allan seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

17. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the 2020 Schedule for field use at Downs Family Park by the Southampton Soccer Club.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Pilaro seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

18. ***RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the 2020 Schedule for field use at Downs Family Park by the Southampton Little League.***

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Pilaro seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

19. ***WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has been working with the Board of Trustees of the Freeholders and Commonalty of the Town of Southampton, the New York State Department of Environmental***

Conservation, the Town of Southampton and various local stakeholders and community members to produce a draft “Harmful Algal Bloom (HABS) Action Plan for Lake Agawam”; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the mitigation actions recommended in the HABS Action Plan are expected to reduce blooms in Lake Agawam but must be undertaken at the start of the spring season in order to minimize the frequency, intensity and duration of HABS to protect both lake users and resident biological communities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees wish to receive comments from the public on the “Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan for Lake Agawam” dated April 2020 and will hold a joint public meeting with the Board of Trustees of the Freeholders and Commonalty of the Town of Southampton on this matter; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby directs that a joint public hearing shall be held on April 2, 2020 at 3:00 p.m., at the Village of Southampton, 23 Main Street, Southampton, New York, to hear any and all persons with respect to the "Harmful Algal Bloom (HABS) Action Plan for Lake Agawam" dated April 2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to publish the following Notice of Public Hearing:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the "Harmful Algal Bloom (HABS) Action Plan for Lake Agawam" dated April 2020 has been completed and may be reviewed on the Village of Southampton website at www.southamptonvillage.org and is on file in the Village Administrator’s Office, Southampton Village Hall, 23 Main Street, Southampton, New York, where it is available for inspection by interested persons Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and take

FURTHER NOTICE, that the Southampton Village Board of Trustees will meet and review the “Harmful Algal Bloom (HABS) Action Plan for Lake Agawam” and hold a joint public hearing with the Board of Trustees of the Freeholders and Commonalty of the Town of Southampton on Thursday, **April 2, 2020 at 3:00pm** at the Village Hall, Village of Southampton, 23 Main Street, Southampton, New York, to hear any and all persons with respect to the “Harmful Algal Bloom (HABS) Action Plan for Lake Agawam”

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF SOUTHAMPTON, NEW YORK
RUSSELL KRATOVILLE, VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Warren made a motion to approve; Trustee Allan seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

20. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the resignation of Robert Ross to the Southampton Village Business Task Force.

Trustee Pilaro made a motion to approve; Trustee Allan seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

21. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees appoints the following individuals to the Southampton Village Business Revitalization Committee: Tom Edmonds, Southampton History Museum, Amy

Kirwin, Southampton Arts Center and Kirsten Lonnie, Southampton Cultural Center

Trustee Pilaro made a motion to approve; Mayor Warren seconded, and a unanimous vote followed.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Trustee Yastrzemski – said he appreciates everyone being vigilant in regard to the Coronavirus and commended the Board members for getting together with other municipalities to get info. Mr. Yastrzemski also commended the EMS depts for getting ahead of the situation and encouraged the public to use common sense and be well.

Trustee Allan – said that the Senior Lunch Club will be cancelled on March 26th and they will update the public when a date is set. Ms. Allan said that the Business Revitalization Committee had scheduled an inaugural event: What’s New Southampton for April 2-5th which may need to be postponed to May 14-17. Trustee Allan said that March is Women’s History Month and this year’s theme is Women’s Right to Vote – 2020 marks the 100th year anniversary. She acknowledged the work of the League of Women Voters. The Mayor also noted that women were the last group to get the right to vote; and African American men got the right to vote before women.

Trustee Parash – encouraged the public to keep hands cleaned and be safe during the Coronavirus crisis.

Trustee Pilaro – said a lot has changed since the Board’s last meeting. He thanked Mauricio Espinoza, the Employee of the Month for the new podium in the Board room. Mr. Pilaro thanked all the employees for their work and said that we know more people will be coming out here so please do all the things that the CDC is recommending. He concluded by saying there is a lot of information on the Coronavirus and we will try to keep our Village website up to date.

Mayor Warren – said he has been working closely with Chief Cummings on a relatively new emergency notification system: CodeRED and encouraged the public to download the app or go to the village website and click on the link to sign up. The CodeRED system is not just for issues today but for ongoing matters. The Mayor thanked the Board for attending the meeting and thanked Mr. Egan.

2nd PUBLIC COMMENT –

Christine Witker Sullivan, Cameron Street, – said the delayed timing of the Hampton Road traffic light has been effective.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mayor Warren made the motion to adjourn the Public Meeting at 7:06PM; Trustee Yastrzemski seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

Russell Kratoville, Village Administrator

3/12/20