



# Village of Southampton

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## **Board of Trustees**

### **MINUTES**

April 25, 2023 - 6:00 PM

### **Call to Order:**

Start Meeting Time: 6:03 PM

### **Present:**

Mayor Jesse Warren, Trustee Gina Arresta, Trustee Robin Brown, Trustee William Manger, Trustee Roy Stevenson, Village Administrator Charlene Kagel-Betts, Village Attorney Andrew Preston, Deputy Village Clerk Karen Bontempo, Assistant to the Mayor Patrick Derenze & A/V Coordinator Sage Certain

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

Led by Mayor Warren

### **Public Comment:**

1. The Village of Southampton's Board of Trustees Meeting will be taking place as a Hybrid In-Person/ZOOM Meeting.  
The meeting will be held at Southampton Village Hall located at 23 Main Street, Southampton, NY, live-streamed and a transcript will be provided at a later date.  
Join the meeting via ZOOM:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89730446459>  
View the meeting via YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwDidTdhkHXbspR0hkoxH4g>  
There is no Public Comment during work sessions.

### **Board Presentations:**

1. Grant Policy and Procedures ~ Charlene Kagel-Betts, Village Administrator/Treasurer

### **Public Hearing:**

1. Local Law XX-2023, the proposal to amend Chapter 116, Zoning, specifically, Sections 116-9A(3), 116-9(A)(10)(a) and 116-9A(11)(a).

Motion to Open Public Hearing was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion to Adjourn was initiated by William Manger and seconded by Roy Stevenson.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

**Communications to the Board:**

1. Correspondence from the Golden Pear
2. Correspondence from Susan Horton and Eric Rayman
3. Correspondence from Meryl Lieberman

**Discussion Items:**

1. Surfrider Foundation Event
2. Elected Officials' Lifetime Benefits ~ Mayor Warren

**Suggested Resolutions:**

1. RESOLVED, the claims for the warrant April 24, 2023 totaling \$647,141.42 (Warrant #A-24 - General Fund), \$138,536.06 (Warrant #H-13 - Capital Fund) and \$5,775.00 (Warrant #T-17 - CS Trust Fund) are audited and approved.

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

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

2. RESOLVED, the reading of the minutes for the Public Sessions of March 21, 2023 is dispensed, the minutes are accepted as filed by the Village Clerk and the actions taken at the 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, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

3. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees (Board) of the Incorporated Village of Southampton (Village) hereby approves Local Law XX-2023, the proposal to amend Chapter 116, Zoning, specifically, Sections 116-9A(3), 116-9(A)(10)(a) and 116-9A(11)(a). (waterfront law)

Motion to Table was initiated by William Manger and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

4. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees (Board) of the Incorporated Village of Southampton (Village) authorizes the Village Clerk to Publish a Notice of Public Hearing to be held on Thursday, May 11, 2023 @ 6:00pm as a Hybrid In-Person/ZOOM Meeting regarding Local Law XX-2023, the proposal to amend Chapters 80, 82, 86 and 110 of the Village Code, entitled "Regulations enumerated", "Peace and Good Order", "Parking Permit", and Vehicles and Traffic".

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by William Manger.

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

5. WHEREAS, it has been the practice of the Incorporated Village of Southampton (the "Village") to provide medical and dental insurance benefits to former and/or retired Mayors and Trustees who attain eligibility pursuant to Village policy and NYSHIP rules and regulations; and,  
WHEREAS, the Board finds that the adoption of resolutions approved in the past created a fiscal obligation for the Village that is burdensome, excessive and unnecessary, and administers medical and dental insurance in an inequitable manner; and  
WHEREAS, such medical and dental insurance is not a contractual right but rather a gratuity that the Village bestowed upon eligible former and/or retired Mayors and Trustees; and  
WHEREAS, the Village possesses discretionary authority in bestowing and/or continuing governmental benefits, NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby  
RESOLVED, that the Board hereby revokes and rejects the right, if any, of any current and future departing Mayor or Trustees to retain free lifetime medical and dental insurance benefits from the Village, and it is further  
RESOLVED, that the medical and dental insurance benefits currently being provided by the Village to former and/or retired Mayors and Trustees who have the vested right to receive such insurance benefits in retirement at the Village's expense for premium costs shall not be affected by this resolution; and it is further  
RESOLVED, that any policy statements, benefit summaries and/or employee manuals shall be modified in accordance with the resolution, and it is further  
RESOLVED, that the Village's Healthcare Benefits Administrator is hereby directed to ensure that any and all notices that may be required pursuant to COBRA, NYSHIP or any other applicable law, rule or regulation necessary in order to effectuate this resolution be timely issued, filed and otherwise implemented.

No Motion due to no conclusion and further study.

6. WHEREAS, the Village of Southampton's West Main Street Bioswale grant project was awarded by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Water Quality Improvement Program.  
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT  
RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves Rosemar for construction service for the West Main Street Bioswale project, with costs not to exceed \$873,839.00.

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

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None  
Abstain: None

7. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees accepts a donation from the Southampton Garden Club in the amount of \$3,500 for the purchase of two Eastern Red Bud Trees and accompanying plaque to be planted at Agawam Park and  
BE IT FURTHER  
RESOLVED, the budget is hereby amended to reflect the donation of these trees as follows:  
INCREASE A2703, Gifts and Donation in the amount of \$3,500  
INCREASE A-8560.4, Shade Trees - Contractual Services in the amount of \$3,500

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by William Manger.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

8. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby accepts from the Southampton Association, the donation of bicycle racks, trash cans and bicycle lane striping for installation at Village beaches and streets. The Board thanks the Southampton Association for this generous gift.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by William Manger.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

9. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves Cathy Sweeney, Village Clerk attend the NYS IIMC Region I Annual Meeting on March 29 - March 31, 2023 in Cooperstown, NY. Travel days are March 29, 2023 and April 1, 2023. Registration, hotel accommodations, meals and travel expenses are estimated at \$950.00.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Robin Brown.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

10. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves Jon Christensen as a probationary member of Fire Police Co. 1, effective April 25, 2023.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Roy Stevenson.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

11. RESOLVED, The Board of Trustees rescinds the following portion of Resolution 2022-1105 adopted at the

August 11, 2022 Village Board Meeting:

Appointing Steve Levanthal - Levanthal, Mullaney and Blinkoff LLP - Special Counsel to the Ethics Board. (as needed)

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by William Manger and seconded by Gina Arresta.

Yes: Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: Jesse Warren

Abstain: None

12. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to enter into a license agreement with SMSA Limited Partnership (d/b/a Verizon Wireless) related to the installation of wireless service equipment at Village Hall, pending approval of the license agreement by the Village Administrator and Counsel.

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

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

13. WHEREAS, the Village has previously entered into License agreements with various establishments allowing them to utilize municipal space for outdoor dining; and, WHEREAS, NYS has adopted legislation to allow establishments to continue to utilize such space, with consent and agreement with the municipality, subject to approval from the State Liquor Authority (SLA), NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Village hereby authorizes and approves the extension of said License from April 1, 2023 to December 3, 2023.

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

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

14. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the Mariners Patriots Club and neighboring school districts to host a Military Recognition Ceremony to recognize graduating seniors committed to enlisting in the Armed Services and serving our nation. The Ceremony is planned to take place on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 10:00am at Agawam Park in front of the World War I Memorial.

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

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None

Abstain: None

15. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Memorial Day Ceremony to be held at Agawam Park on Monday, May 29, 2023 at 10:45am.

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

Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger

No: None  
Abstain: None

16. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the request from Jenna Schwerzmann, Eastern LI Surfriders to host a Coopers Beach Clean-up on July 5, 2023 from 5:00pm - 8:00pm.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Robin Brown.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

17. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Heart of the Hamptons to host their Moonlit Plunge Fundraiser at Coopers Beach on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 from 7pm to 10pm. The \$250 fee will be waived for this event.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

18. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the Beach Event Application for Southampton Bath and Tennis Club, 212 Gin Lane on Saturday, August 19, 2023 @ 6:30pm - 9:30 pm for 200 guests. Parking will be pre-coordinated and exception to parking letters will be conspicuously displayed on vehicles during the event.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

19. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees appoints Brian Doroska to the position of Maintenance Mechanic IV in the Highway Department, at a salary of \$80,573.69, effective April 25, 2023.

Motion to Approve (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

### **Mayoral Appointments:**

### **Comments from Board Members:**

*Trustee Arresta ~ First I'd like to thank Charlene for this procedure for the Grant application processing. It has been very confusing with a lot of things coming out and now we have a standard of how to proceed and keep track of the grants and the matches that are required for the grant. It helps with budgeting and moving*

forward to get things done. I also wanted to mention the Finance Committee because they worked very hard on this as well.

We were talking about Brian and the brickwork. I just wanted to let everyone know that the brickwork will be continuing next week on Main Street on certain sections during the summer and then will continue again in the fall. We are also working on the sidewalk repairs throughout the village.

We rolled out the Big Bellies and I have to say that they've been very very well received. Certain people love the foot pedal. You don't have to touch anything, you put your foot on the pedal, it opens up and, since the containers are closed, we don't have a problem with squirrels running in there and getting garbage out. Hopefully, we're not going to see seagulls down Main Street either. It also prevents people from putting household trash in cans. They're environmentally friendly. We are carting about two-thirds less of what we normally carry from the Main Street area, which is a big consideration and we now have to take our garbage to Yapank. We have to transport our garbage. We can no longer bring it to Southampton. I'm glad people are happy with the Big Belly roll out.

Friday is a big day. It is Arbor Day, so now that we're a Tree City USA, we're going to be planting a tree in Agawam Park near the lake on Friday morning at 10:30am, so come out and then, after that, the seniors are invited to go to Our Lady of the Hamptons for a Senior Luncheon. You do have to call and make a reservation. The 8th graders are sponsoring this Senior Appreciation Day. It starts at 11:30am and you can call the school. So you can help with tree planting and then go over and have lunch. So have a good evening everyone. Hope to see you Friday.

**Trustee Brown** ~ I had the pleasure of meeting with our Senior Citizen Society. The main goal we have is that our village is filled with a wealth of different activities and to try and focus on putting everything in one place so that our seniors would be able to find it quickly. We had a wonderful meeting. I want to thank everyone for joining. I want to thank all the Society members, and I'm looking forward to having a great time working with them.

Spring is here, summer is upon us. We are quite excited, our umbrellas and chairs are here for Coopers Beach. We had a tremendous season last year. I believe we exceeded \$200,000 of our goal. Thank you, thank you Coopers beach team. We're going to make a little addition with tables, making things just lovely and perhaps a couple of treats coming down the road. I want to give a special thank you to DPW. I was at Cooper's Beach and they were just working fast and steady and getting everything ready for the opening of the restaurant. Thank you so much. I was quite impressed at the speed and how things were coming together so well. Thank you.

**Trustee Manger** ~ I wanted to update everyone on the comprehensive plan and the addition of the bike lanes. The bike lanes are coming for the summer. I was on the board when we added the bike lanes on Hill St. At that time, we were able to get a grant from the Department of Transportation. This time I was able to get a donor to pay for the striping, which was fantastic, so it did not cost any village taxpayer dollars.

You will see the striping on Hampton Rd, Nugent and Windmill Lane. The DPW was able to have a little bike trail connector, connecting Coopers Farm to Vahradian Way, so you can get onto Hill Street, and go down First Neck Lane to get to the beaches. We are going to have bike racks in the back of the stores on West Main. Thank you very much.

**Trustee Stevenson** ~ Earlier this evening, the Mayor had a presentation regarding changes to the ongoing health care for the Village Trustees and Officers. I'm just concerned that over the last few months there have been several resolutions that the Mayor has proposed that have not been seconded at all, which indicates to me a complete lack of consultation with the board to determine whether or not they would support such resolutions. I am not against the idea that the Mayor has proposed in his discussion, I'm against the way that it was presented this evening, a sudden addition to the agenda a few days ago and no data presented. No

comparative with other villages. No indication of how else it's done. There is no indication that the two other boards have been working on this project and getting some input and feedback from the work they have done. He made a presentation at a previous board meeting by the Planning Commission regarding term limits. At that point, the Mayor made a long speech about how this was very good, but we needed to get some more public input. There was no public input on this. The Mayor just expected to have a vote this evening and, of course, the board presented, in this sort of, do it or else fashion, decline to second the mayor's motion, at a waste of attorney's time. As I said, I think this is a subject that needs to be discussed. I'd probably be in. I think it's probably not in the best interest of the village to grant lifetime health benefits, but it needs to be considered a package with compensation with term limits and we need to see what other areas are doing. Let's come up with a comprehensive plan that's backed by some data, not just an appeal to "let's all be volunteers that work for free", which is what the mayor seems to be saying, as though if we don't agree with that, we're somehow bad people. It's a difficult job being a Trustee, it's a difficult job, it's a fun job, it's a fascinating job being a Trustee. I believe it should be easier than it is because I think it should be more consultative. I think we should take public input. We should consider all these factors before we suddenly try to make a decision on the spur of the moment, which seems to be practice in this boardroom more often than it should. I believe that the lack of seconds to motions over the last few months has been a strong indication of the lack of communication and consultation from the Mayor. All it takes is an email to everybody. I still agree with many of the principles that the Mayor endorses and I'm proud to agree with them. I'm very proud to agree with working to clean Lake Agawam and getting rid of gas leaf blowers. We've done a lot of really good things. It's just unfortunate that it's so difficult to keep doing good things because communication doesn't seem to be strong enough. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I appreciate it very much.

**Mayor Warren** ~ I want to thank Patrick for helping set up the Citizen Preparedness Training. The village will be partnering with the New York State Citizen Preparation Corp. to host the Citizens Preparation Training. The course teaches residents how to prepare, respond and to recover from a disaster. Training is led by the New York State National Guard and experts from the Office of Emergency Management and the Office of Fire Prevention. Course attendees are given training and each family who attends will receive a free New York State Disaster Preparedness Kit containing key items to assist in the case of an emergency. The training is going to take place on Saturday June 10th at 9 A.M at the Southampton Fire Department Station Headquarters on Hampton Road and to register you can go online. This is on the Village website and you could also select the Southampton Fire Department event so there's a website link which we'll post to the village website, so Patrick, I want to thank you for this.

Also, thank you Chief Manny Escobar and the Southampton Village Fire Department for helping us put this together. You can never be too safe and thank you as well for your help on this one and we really appreciate it. I also wanted to thank the Department of Public Works for bike lanes. They have done an outstanding job. This is something we've all worked together as a team on for these bike lanes and it's great to see them go into place. There was a resolution earlier approving Cathy Sweeney to attend the New York State Regional Annual Meeting and I just wanted to thank Cathy for attending that and she has done some outstanding work and she has been a real leader, especially when it comes to training and reaching out to NYCOM and the Long Island Clerks Association and that's exactly what we want to see. And then, we also have Karen Bontempo here tonight, who is our Deputy Clerk and she is the clerk in the absence of Cathy. Karen has also done an outstanding job. Every day we get positive feedback from residents and stakeholders coming in day in and day out with your work and Mimi's work, especially during the beach pass season, so I wanted to recognize Karen as well and thank you. Then and lastly, Arbor Day is coming up. I believe we have some students that are going to help us celebrate. Everyone is invited and we could also post some more information about our Arbor Day celebration on our village website and thank you Steve Phillips and the Parks department for their help with Arbor Day.

### **Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session**



Motion to Adjourn was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
End Meeting Time: 8:13 PM

**Return to Public Session:**

Motion to Return (Aye) was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None

Return Time: 8:13 PM

**Resolutions, if any:**

No Resolutions noted.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Motion to Adjourn was initiated by Jesse Warren and seconded by Gina Arresta.  
Yes: Jesse Warren, Gina Arresta, Robin Brown, Roy Stevenson, William Manger  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
End Meeting Time: 8:13 PM