



Village of Southampton

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Board of Trustees

MINUTES

August 3, 2021 - 3:30 PM

Call to Order:

Start Meeting Time: 3:34 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 Deputy Clerk Cathy Sweeney, and Audio/Visual Coordinator Katherine Styler

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Mayor Warren

Suggested Resolutions:

1. RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the stipulation of settlement agreement between Stott Architecture, P.C. and Village of Southampton, with an effective date of August 3, 2021 and authorizes Mayor or designee to sign proposed settlement.

Motion to Approve (Aye) 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

Explanation by Attorney Kenneth Gray:

- Litigation initiated over four years ago and had to do with engineering services provided by Stott with respect to the Ambulance Barn.
- The former Administration had terminated Stott's services prior to the culmination of the project and moved in another direction.
- Stott sued the Village of Southampton for full payment of the contract, in addition to change work orders initiated by the Village.
- When services were terminated, Stott attempted to collect his payment, a lawsuit moved forward due to lack of payment by the Village.
- An independent mediator found common ground between both parties, to avoid unnecessary course of litigation and court date scheduled for August 4, 2021, this settlement was initiated.
- Settlement will save the village the cost of trial and possible appeals from the plaintiff.

Mayor Warren comments:

- No members from this current board were present during this work and this has been inherited.
- Thank you Mr. Stott for his work
- This Board has a commitment to reducing the village's long-term liabilities, efficient government and to eliminating waste.
- We are happy to turn the page and move forward and move on to a brighter chapter to create a better environment where we have a nice relationship working with our vendors, contractors and other outside agents.

Trustee Stevenson comments:

- Agreed with Mayor Warren's comments.
- Additionally, this could have amounted to significantly more than the amount that was negotiated as a settlement.
- While no one enjoys having to pay funds for items that we were not responsible for, this is the best solution to a problem that we inherited.

Trustee McLoughlin comments:

- It was a long road, several years and two administrations ago, I am thankful this is finally resolved.
- We can move on from this and go forward.

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

None noted.

Return to Public Session:

None noted.

Resolutions, if any:

None noted.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion to Approve (Aye) 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

End Meeting Time: 3:40 PM