

**INC. VILLAGE OF PLANDOME HEIGHTS
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BY VIDEO CONFERENCE
MARCH 1, 2021; 6:00 PM
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Present:	Mayor	Kenneth C. Riscica
	Trustee	Daniel Cataldo
	Trustee	Silva Ferman
	Trustee	Gus Panopoulos
	Trustee	Dianne Sheehan
	Trustee	Alvin Solomon
	Trustee	Norman Taylor
	Clerk-Treasurer	Arlene Drucker
	Village Attorney	Christopher Prior, Esq.

Also Present:	Mary Hauck	Resident
	Rosemary Mascalli	Resident

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by the Mayor at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2021 by video conference, pursuant to Executive Orders relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, issued by Governor Cuomo impacting the NYS Open Meetings Law. The meeting was recorded for later transcription.

The Mayor noted that the first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, the February 11, 2021 Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees and the February 23, 2021 Budget Work Session of the Board of Trustees. The Trustees confirmed that they had read the draft minutes. After discussion, upon motion by Trustee Solomon, seconded by Trustee Taylor, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present with the exception that Trustee Sheehan abstained from voting on the minutes of the February 11, 2021 Special Meeting due to being absent from that meeting:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, the February 11, 2021 Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees and of the February 23, 2021 Budget Work Session of the Board of Trustees in the form presented by the Village Clerk-Treasurer are hereby accepted and approved.

The Mayor then moved the discussion to LED lights. Mayor Riscica shared with the Trustees the feedback from residents relating to the two lights recently installed on the East side of the Village. Mayor Riscica provided the locations of the three additional replacement “corn cob” style lights on the west side of the Village so that all residents can have an opportunity to observe the proposed new street lighting prior to the full change over.

The Mayor then moved the discussion to the upcoming Village Election. After discussion, upon motion by Trustee Taylor, seconded by Trustee Sheehan, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the following persons are appointed to the position of Election Inspector for the Village’s Election Day, Tuesday, March 16, 2021:

Marie Dalton Buono as Election Inspector Chair at a rate of \$175 per day.

Robert Anastasia as Election Inspector at a rate of \$150 per day.

All Manhasset residents who are identified to the Village Clerk by the Nassau County Board of Elections as currently approved election inspectors in other elections conducted by the Nassau County Board of Elections.

Mayor Riscica then addressed the DEC's annual requirement that local municipalities including the Village complete an MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) report. The new contract proposal from West Side Engineering has been provided to the Trustees. Mr. James Antonelli of West Side Engineering, our Village Engineer, has provided this service competently for the Village for several years. After discussion and upon motion by Trustee Solomon, seconded by Trustee Taylor, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the agreement with West Side Engineering to complete the 2021 MS4 report at rate of \$160.00 per hour, not to exceed \$1,800, is hereby approved.

The Mayor then moved the discussion to the required New York State Public Employer Health Emergency Plan. This plan has been developed in accordance with the amended New York State Labor Law requiring public employers to adopt a plan for operations in the event of a declared public health emergency involving a communicable disease. After discussion and upon motion by Trustee Sheehan, seconded by Trustee Panopoulos, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the Village adopts the New York State Public Employer Health Emergency Plan as presented.

The Mayor then moved the discussion to the Nassau County Hazard Mitigation Plan. After discussion and upon motion by Trustee Ferman, seconded by Trustee Taylor, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

WHEREAS, all of Nassau County has exposure to natural hazards that increase the risk to life, property, environment and the County's economy; and

WHEREAS, pro-active mitigation of known hazards before a disaster event can reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property; and

WHEREAS, The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) established new requirements for pre and post disaster hazard mitigation programs; and

WHEREAS, a coalition of Nassau County municipalities with like planning objectives has been formed to pool resources and create consistent mitigation strategies within Nassau County; and

WHEREAS, the coalition has completed a planning process that engages the public, assesses the risk and vulnerability to the impacts of natural hazards, develops a mitigation strategy consistent with a set of uniform goals and objectives, and creates a plan for implementing, evaluating and revising this strategy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Plandome Heights:

- 1) Adopts in its entirety, the Nassau County Hazard Mitigation Plan (the “Plan”) as the jurisdiction’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and resolves to execute the actions identified in the Plan that pertain to this jurisdiction.
- 2) Will use the adopted and approved portions of the Plan to guide pre- and post-disaster mitigation of the hazards identified.
- 3) Will coordinate the strategies identified in the Plan with other planning programs and mechanisms under its jurisdictional authority.
- 4) Will continue its support of the Mitigation Planning Committee as described within the Plan.
- 5) Will help to promote and support the mitigation successes of all participants in this Plan.
- 6) Will incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of government and partner operations.
- 7) Will provide an update of the Plan in conjunction with the County no less than every five years.

At 6:59 p.m. Trustee Panopoulos motioned to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss real estate matters. This motion was seconded by Trustee Cataldo. All Trustees present were in favor.

At 7:29 p.m., the Mayor announced that executive session ended with no action taken.

The Mayor then moved the discussion to the tentative 2021 - 2022 budget and the Tax Cap. The Mayor indicated that, as prescribed by law, he, as Budget Officer, presented a “Tentative Budget” for the Village fiscal year June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022 to the Village Clerk, and the Village Clerk has presented such budget to the Trustees. The Mayor observed that both the Tentative Budget and Summary of the Tentative Budget had been provided to the Trustees for their review.

Mayor Riscica then made a presentation showing various aspects of Village property tax increases and spending over the five prior years, with projections for the next five years, with a summary of operations, analysis of the factors resulting in the annual surpluses that the Village has enjoyed in recent years, the Fiscal Year Capital Plan, and other matters relevant to the Tentative Budget and Village finances (such presentation is annexed to these minutes). In summary, he reported the following key aspects of the Tentative Budget:

- The budget will comply with the Tax Cap for 2021 – 22,
- The Tax Cap allows a 3.3% increase. The Village will utilize a 2.8% increase in the budget, enabling a 0.5% carryover for future years.
- The Increase represents approximately \$32 per year for the average resident.
- The taxes will be just 2.4% higher than they were 12 years ago in 2010,
- The average annual tax increase for the last 10 years will be about 1.5%,
- The Village’s tax advantage vs. outside the Village will continue to be 33% (\$500/year) lower. This annual advantage, over 10 years, is \$5,000 of savings to each household.

As the Trustees proposed no changes to the Tentative Budget, the next step in the budget process is to make the Tentative Budget available to the public and to conduct a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget. After discussion and upon motion by Trustee Cataldo, seconded by Trustee Sheehan, the following resolution was unanimously passed by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that a Public Hearing shall be held remotely, via videoconference only, with no “in person” location, as authorized pursuant to NYS Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 202.1 on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to consider the adoption of the Village’s Tentative Budget for the fiscal year June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022 and further, that the Village Clerk-Treasurer is directed to: (a) make all required public notices of the Public Hearing and (b) make copies of the Tentative Budget available to residents as provided by law.

The Mayor the further discussed the tax cap and noted that there may be a unique situation/opportunity that could arise for the Village. If that was to occur, the Village may need to change the tentative budget and pierce the tax cap. After discussion and upon motion by Trustee Sheehan, seconded by Trustee Taylor, the following resolution was unanimously passed by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that a proposed local law authorizing the Village to adopt a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in New York State General Municipal Law § 3-c is hereby introduced as Bill No. 1 of 2021: a Public Hearing with respect thereto shall be held remotely, via videoconference only, with no “in person” location, as authorized pursuant to NYS Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 202.1 on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

The Mayor stated that the next order of business was the approval of the Abstract of Claims. After discussion, upon motion by Trustee Sheehan, seconded by Trustee Cataldo, who comprise the Board’s temporary audit committee during the pandemic, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the Abstract of Claims Number 10 of the Budget Year 2020 – 2021 for claim numbers 259 – 289 in the amount of \$28,169.92 has been reviewed by the temporary audit committee and is hereby approved by the Trustees and accepted.

The Mayor then moved the conversation to the recent Public Hearing about the Planning Board. The Mayor recommended that the board continue to evaluate different options and no action was taken.

The Mayor then discussed the Justice Court Audit Report prepared by the Village’s independent auditor for the period October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. The Mayor noted the recommendations contained in the audit report and a discussion of those recommendations ensued, including a discussion of corrective actions that have been taken. After discussion, upon motion by Trustee Taylor, seconded by Trustee Ferman, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the Justice Court Audit Report for the Village for the period from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020 submitted by Skinnon & Faber is hereby accepted.

The Mayor then noted that the annual street lighting contract was still not received from the vendor.

At 8:17 p.m. Trustee Panopoulos motioned to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss personnel. This motion was seconded by Trustee Sheehan. All Trustees present were in favor.

At 8:32 p.m., the Mayor announced that executive session ended with no action taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Drucker, Clerk-Treasurer

Enc.: Attachment A – Additional Attendees
Attachment B – Transcript of the Public Hearing

Attachment A – Additional Attendees

Silvano Meloni	34 Winthrop Road - Resident
Rose Wheldon	Manhasset Times
Aida Milcetic	49 Grandview Circle - Resident
Jackie O'Connor	34 The Waterway - Resident
Gene O'Connor	34 The Waterway - Resident
John Jeffrey	55 Grandview Circle - Resident
Elaine Canton	132 Bay Driveway -Resident
Cye Ross	46 Winthrop Road - Resident
Katarina Bernic	91 Plandome Court
George (Chuck) McCarthy	74 Summit Drive - Resident
Rosemary Mascali	36 Bournedale Road South - Resident
Roxanne Fitzig	70 Bournedale Road South - Resident
Nancy Salter	115 Plandome Court - Resident
John Camillo	66 Shore Road - Resident
John Grassano	93 Bournedale Road North - Resident
Hilary Haber	25 Grandview Circle – Resident
Lawrence Haber	25 Grandview Circle – Resident
Michael Knox	72 Cove Drive - Resident
Theresa McSweeney	761 Plandome Court - Resident
Randall Rosenbaum	1 Over Hill Lane, Flower Hill
Barbara Donno	Mayor of Plandome Manor
Dennis Sears	105 Bournedale Road North - Resident
Laura Maurischat	69 Shore Road - Resident
Christopher Maurischat	69 Shore Road - Resident