

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PLANDOME HEIGHTS VILLAGE HALL
MARCH 3, 2025; 7:00 PM
MINUTES OF MEETING**

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Present: | Mayor | Kenneth C. Riscica |
| | Trustee | Daniel Cataldo |
| | Trustee | Mary Hauck |
| | Trustee | Norman Taylor |
| | Trustee | Kristina Lobosco |
| | Trustee | Eric Carlson |
| | Clerk | Marie Brodsky |
| | Deputy Clerk | Susan Martinez |
| | Village Attorney | Christopher Prior, Esq. |

Attended

(via Telephone)Trustee Jerry Love (non-voting)

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|--|
| Also Present: | Rosemary Mascali | Resident, President Plandome Heights Civic Association |
| | Paul Mascali | Resident |
| | Donald O'Brien | Local community resident |

At 7:02 p.m. Mayor Riscica called the meeting to order and called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor stated that the first order of business was approval of the minutes of the Board of Trustees' February 3, 2025 Regular Meeting. The Trustees confirmed that they read the draft minutes. After discussion, upon motion by Trustee Hauck, seconded by Trustee Taylor, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the February 3, 2025 Regular Meeting in the form presented by the Village Clerk-Treasurer are hereby accepted and approved, as amended, and the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby instructed to file the minutes in the minutes book of the Village.

The Mayor then moved the discussion to reviewing the tentative budget and scheduling the public hearing. The Mayor's message to the residents regarding the 2025-2026 Tentative Budget may be found in Exhibit 1. The 2025-2026 Tentative Budget may be found on the Village website.

The Mayor, as the Budget Officer, began with an overview of the Village's financial challenges.

- Municipal costs have risen nearly 20% from 2022-2025, counting the 2026 budget year (5 years) local costs increased by 18.5%
- Village property taxes have only risen 7% in the past four years, with projections for 2026 bringing that to 9.5% (if the Village does not pierce the village property tax levy cap).
- New York State Comptroller DiNapoli acknowledges inflation's impact and suggests municipalities consider exceeding the property tax levy tax levy cap, among other considerations.

- Through the current fiscal year, shortfalls have been covered by non-recurring revenue sources, including interest income, unusually high building fees, and federal COVID-19 funds (no longer available as of 12/31/2024), which had generated surpluses in previous years.
- The Board must now decide how to address the financial shortfalls created by cost increases not met by tax increases, in light of the loss or reduction of those non-tax revenue sources.
- The Village has a strong financial position and so can handle the situation thoughtfully.

The Mayor's proposed tentative budget for June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026 adheres to the tax cap applicable to the Village (which includes carry-forwards).

- It includes a property tax increase of approximately \$29 per average home (2.5%).
- Village property taxes remain the lowest in Nassau County and 33% lower than equivalent town services.
- The average tax increase has been 1.75% per year over 14 years.

There is no disputing that inflation has had a significant effect on our costs over the last four years. However, in light of our strong balance sheet and the Village's "Planning Beyond One Year" discipline, we do not need to absorb the additional costs all at once.

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 Daniel Cataldo, seconded by Trustee Norman Taylor, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that on Monday April 7, 2025 at 7:00 PM at Village Hall, the Board of Trustees will hold a PUBLIC HEARING to consider the adoption of the Village's Tentative Budget for the fiscal year June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026 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, including on the Village website.

The Mayor then presented a brief summary and account balance of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act. There is approximately a \$2,000 balance. No additional discussions or actions took place.

The Mayor then moved the meeting to discuss Village Operations.

The Mayor asked Trustee Jerry Love for an update on Verizon Franchise Renewal Agreement and Public Hearing. Trustee Love reported that the attorneys representing the consortium of villages jointly contracting with Verizon have advised that the Board resolution adopted at the Board's January 6, 2025 BOT meeting authorizing notice of the public hearing for the Verizon contract is deemed sufficient notice on the part of the Village for that public hearing. No additional discussions or actions took place.

The Mayor then addressed the Bidding for Village Snow Plow contract for years .2026 through 2036, contemplated for a bid date of March 25, 2025. The Board discussed the need to secure a qualified contractor for snow removal services to ensure safety and accessibility throughout the Village during winter months.

After discussion, upon motion by Trustee Lobosco, seconded by Trustee Taylor, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the Village to undertake a competitive bidding process for the snow removal contract in accordance with applicable law;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs the Clerk-Treasurer to prepare and publish the Notice to Bidders.

Mayor Riscica and the Board agreed to table consideration of the U. Arias contract proposal for 2025-2026 to the April 7, 2025 meeting.

The Mayor stated that the next order of business was the approval of the Abstract of Claims. After review, upon motion by Trustee Daniel Cataldo, seconded by Trustee Mary Hauck, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the February Abstract of Claims Number 10 of the Budget Year 2024 - 2025 for claim numbers 268-293 in the amount of \$28,281.75 has been reviewed and approved by the Trustees, and is hereby accepted.

At 8:00 p.m. upon motion by Trustee Cataldo, seconded by Trustee Carlson, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by all Trustees present:

RESOLVED, that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss budget and real estate, and to obtain advice of counsel.

At 9:15 p.m. the Mayor announced that the executive session ended with no action taken.

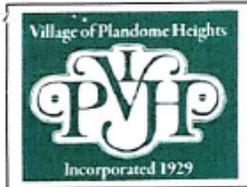
The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Brodsky
Clerk-Treasurer

INDEX OF EXHIBITS

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PLANDOME HEIGHTS VILLAGE HALL
March 3, 2025
MINUTES OF MEETING**



INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF
Plandome Heights

37 Orchard Street, Manhasset, New York 11030
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March __, 2025

RE: Tentative Budget – 2025/26

Kenneth C. Riscica
Mayor

Eric Carlson
Daniel Cataldo
Mary Hauck
Kristina Lobosco
Jerry Love
Norman Taylor
Trustees

Marie Brodsky
Clerk -Treasurer

Susan Martinez
Deputy Clerk

Katherine Hannon
Deputy Clerk - Court

Cye E. Ross, Esq.
Village Justice

Mary Breen Corrigan
Prosecutor

Edward P. Butt, AIA
Building Inspector
Stormwater Mgmt.
Officer

David Lisner
Emergency Mgmt.
Coordinator

Maryann Grieco
Architectural Review
Board, Chair

Eugene O'Connor
Zoning and Appeals
Board, Chair

Trey Haragan
Technology Advisory
Board, Chair

Mary Gabriel
Historian

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I write to overview of the significant issues affecting our finances as well as our approach to addressing them within our *Planning Beyond One Year* approach to *Low and Stable Taxes*.

There is no disputing that inflation has had a very significant effect on our costs over the last four years. The NY State Comptroller acknowledges this in publishing data that shows municipal costs growing nearly 20% from 2022 – 2025. Our costs are slightly better than the averages with 17% increase in cost. We have been cushioning those increases by raising taxes only 7% in 4 years. If you add 2026, those numbers are 18.5% (cost) and 9.5% (tax). My [Mayor's 2024 Year-end-review](#), and prior reports indicate this and that this year we expected a increase in occupancy costs.

You should know that Comptroller DiNapoli, in publishing the 20% inflation numbers juxtaposed with the 2% tax cap, advises, "*Local officials should consider these issues as they budget for the coming year,*" effectively advising municipalities to exceed the tax cap.

We have been "covering" that 9% shortfall with non-recurring interest income, unusual building fees and federal COVID-19 money that expired in 2024. In fact, we more than covered this 9% shortfall and in fact generated surplus in each of those years, which is good.

The question for our community is, *now that the effects of inflation leave a lasting shortfall and the temporary "coverage" of that shortfall is over or ending, what do we do to address this?* Because our surplus' leave us with a rock-solid balance sheet, and we have a "steady hand," we can deal with this thoughtfully.

My original thought on this is that we can "cover" the shortfall one more year and perhaps that is the best course at this time. So, on March 3, 2025 I presented the Trustees with a Tentative Budget for the fiscal year June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026 that observes our tax cap and increases property taxes by approximately \$29.00/year per average home, 2.5%. A Public Hearing for residents on the Tentative Budget will be held on Monday, April 7, 2022 at the Village Annual Meeting which starts at 7:00 p.m. This provides you with open dialog and full transparency including the status and effect of any developments on occupancy.

Whatever we do, our property taxes will continue to be the lowest Village taxes in Nassau County* and are 33% less than the same services in the Town; further our tax increases have averaged 1.75%/year for 14 years,

Your comments, questions and complaints are cheerfully accepted. I hope to hear from you.

Sincerely,
INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PLANDOME HEIGHTS

Kenneth C. Riscica,
Mayor@PlandomeHeights-NY.Gov

New York State Comptroller
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI



Property Tax Cap

Inflation and Allowable Levy Growth Factors

2022 - 2025 4 year inflation rate = 19.7%

| Inflation Factors and Allowable Levy Growth Factors by Fiscal Year | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Fiscal Year | Fiscal Years Beginning | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2021 | | 2022 | | 2023 | | 2024 | | 2025 | |
| | Inflation Factor | Allowable Levy Growth Factor | Inflation Factor | Allowable Levy Growth Factor | Inflation Factor | Allowable Levy Growth Factor | Inflation Factor | Allowable Levy Growth Factor | Inflation Factor | Allowable Levy Growth Factor |
| Jan 1 - Dec 31 | 1.56% | 1.0156 | 2.30% | 1.0200 | 7.17% | 1.0200 | 6.26% | 1.0200 | 3.30% | 1.0200 |
| Mar 1 - Feb 28 | 1.46% | 1.0146 | 3.00% | 1.0200 | 7.69% | 1.0200 | 5.43% | 1.0200 | 3.18% | 1.0200 |
| Apr 1 - Mar 31 | 1.43% | 1.0143 | 3.33% | 1.0200 | 7.92% | 1.0200 | 5.06% | 1.0200 | 3.07% | 1.0200 |
| Jun 1 - May 31 | 1.31% | 1.0131 | 4.23% | 1.0200 | 8.06% | 1.0200 | 4.37% | 1.0200 | 2.99% | 1.0200 |
| Jul 1 - Jun 30 | 1.23% | 1.0123 | 4.70% | 1.0200 | 8.00% | 1.0200 | 4.12% | 1.0200 | 2.95% | 1.0200 |
| Aug 1 - Jul 31 | 1.14% | 1.0114 | 5.21% | 1.0200 | 7.91% | 1.0200 | 3.85% | 1.0200 | 2.94% | 1.0200 |
| Sep 1 - Aug 31 | 1.09% | 1.0109 | 5.72% | 1.0200 | 7.75% | 1.0200 | 3.61% | 1.0200 | Coming March 2025 | |
| Oct 1 - Sep 30 | 1.18% | 1.0118 | 6.22% | 1.0200 | 7.45% | 1.0200 | 3.49% | 1.0200 | | |

As defined in law, the allowable levy growth factor is the lesser of one plus the inflation factor or one and two-one-hundredths. For periods where the inflation factor is less than 2 percent, the allowable levy growth factor is equal to one plus the inflation factor.







osc.ny.gov
• Division of Local Government and School Accountability
• February 2025

