

Minutes of the Virtual Village Board Meeting held on December 9, 2021 at 7:30PM

Present: Timothy Egan, Mayor
Andrew Giacomazza, Trustee/Mayor-Elect
Tara Burek, Jesus Gomez and Christopher Graziano, Trustees
Also Present: Kelly Naughton, Attorney for the Village; Robert Weyant, Village Streets Superintendent;
Michael Phillips, Water/Wastewater Administrator; Michael Panella, Building Inspector;
Christopher Burke, Fire Chief; Laurie Tautel, County Legislator

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only: *No comments were received.*

Administrative Business:

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Trustee Graziano, seconded by Trustee Burek, to accept receipt of the minutes of the meeting held November 16, 2021.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
NOES 0

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Gomez, to approve Abstract 12 containing vouchers 211026 – 211149 and totaling \$282,661.27.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
NOES 0

c. Fire Department Equipment Request(s):

Motion was offered by Trustee Graziano, seconded by Trustee Gomez, to approve Fire Department Equipment Request 2021-24 totaling approximately \$2424.00 for the purchase of 24 sets of structural fire gloves and Request 2021-25 totaling approximately \$542.30 for the purchase of ten boxes of road safety flares.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
NOES 0

d. Fire Department Membership:

Motion was offered by Trustee Burek, seconded by Trustee Giacomazza, to accept the application for membership to the Central Valley Fire Company received from Eric Luding.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
NOES 0

e. Appointment of Full-Time MEO Effective January 3, 2022 – R Whitehead:

Motion was offered by Trustee Burek, seconded by Trustee Giacomazza, to approve the appointment of Ross Whitehead to the position of full-time MEO with a start date of January 3, 2022 at an hourly rate of \$28.14.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
NOES 0

Old Business:

a. Appointment to Zoning Board of Appeals:

Mayor Egan stated interviews were held this just prior to the meeting this evening and that this topic will be tabled until a future meeting for a decision to be made.

New Business:

a. Approve Slate of Officer – Fire Chief’s:

Motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Gomez, to approve the following revised slate of officers for the Woodbury Fire Department, as approved by their Warrant Board last month: Christopher Burke, Car 1; Scott McClennan, Jr., Car 2; Car 3 is currently vacant.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

b. Change Order #1 – CDBG FY2020 Hydrant Replacement:

Motion was offered by Trustee Graziano, seconded by Trustee Gomez, to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Change Order #1 for the project CDBG FY2020 Hydrant Replacement which results in an increase of \$32,342.84 due to the Village selecting four additional hydrants for replacement based on need and additional funding made available by HUD/CDBG.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

c. Review/Discuss/Approve Water/Sewer Union Contract 6/2022-5/2027:

Mayor Egan stated the union contract for the Water/Sewer employees expires on May 31, 2022 and a proposal has been received for consideration. There is only one change proposed – to increase the “deputy pay” from \$25 per day to \$40 per day, when acting, to match what was done in the Highway employees’ contract. Mayor Egan stated he feels this is a reasonable request and would like the Board to vote on this issue this evening. The Board agreed. Motion was then offered by Trustee Burek, seconded by Trustee Graziano, to approve the union contract for the Water/Sewer Department with a term of June 1, 2022 thru May 31, 2027 and to authorize the Mayor to sign any and all documents related to this renewal.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

d. Resolution – Relevy of Previously Exempt Property:

Motion was offered by Trustee Gomez, seconded by Trustee Giacomazza, to adopt the following resolution to re-levy a prorated tax amount due on property(ies) located at various locations that was/were previously eligible for an exemption:

WHEREAS, the owner(s) of property was/were eligible for an exemption on property taxes and upon the sale/death this exemption must be removed; and

WHEREAS, notification was received by the Village Clerk from the Woodbury Assessor that prorated amount(s) need to be re-levied onto the FY2022/2023 taxes for this/these property(ies).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Village Board directs the Village Clerk, Village Tax Collector and any other Village official, employee or agent of the Village to take any and all necessary actions to levy and collect the following amounts on the following affected land(s) in the same manner as all other Village Charges and to take any necessary actions to execute and record a lien upon such land:

211-1-47	32 Pleasant Dr HM	\$241.91
211-1-74	7 Woodland Rd HM	\$17.15

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano

NOES 0

EXTRA ITEM – Waiver for Fees – Town New Year’s Eve Ball Drop Event:

Motion was offered by Trustee Giacomazza, seconded by Trustee Burek, to waive all fees associated with the Town of Woodbury Parks Department New Year’s Eve Ball Drop event scheduled for December 31, 2021.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

Public Comment:

Melissa Jackson, Hadley Farm Road, stated she has concerns about some improvements being done at the property adjacent to hers, 72 Southfields Falls Road. The owner is currently constructing a blockade above their fence that is about 30’ to block their view of her swimming pool. She was originally told they would be planting trees, as was she, to replace ones that were damaged during a storm. She feels the structure they are erecting is dangerous and could cause damage to her property/house. She did speak to the Building Department about her concerns but understands there has been a change in personnel. She is aware that a building permit was issued for something but she is unsure what. She is also concerned about illegal lights that have been hung up on Hadley Farm Road. She contacted the Police, Fire and Building Departments about them and the fire hazards they pose. She is gratefully for everything the Town/Village has done for her thus far and would like to see these two issues addressed. Mayor Egan stated he will follow-up with the Building Department and Inspector Panella stated he will conduct a site visit tomorrow.

Brandon Calore thanked the Board, on behalf of the Parks Committee, for the waiving the fees associated with the Ball Drop evening they have planned.

Legislator Tautel congratulated all that coordinated the tree lighting which was a wonderful event. She then noted the Board should be receiving from the County the SEQRA resolution relating to the bonding for the replacement of the Highland Mills bridge¹ in the Town of Woodbury.

Board Member/Department Comment:

Mayor Egan stated last weekend We are Woodbury hosted the second annual tree lighting ceremony at Peroni Circle. He thanked Mayor-Elect Giacomazza and Supervisor-Elect Burke, along with members of the town and village boards, for leading the crowd in this wonderful event. He was unable to be there (he was with family) but from what he could see it was a unifying experience for the community. He thanked all that were involved in the event. He then noted the in the past two decades since 9/11, in addition to the 343 firefighters, 60 police officers, 8 EMTs and paramedics from private services and thousands of civilians that died that fateful day, there have been another 264 EMTs, paramedics and firefighters that have died due to 9/11 related illnesses. Two days ago, Assistant Chief Alvin Suriel, the assistant chief of Emergency Medical Services, became the 264th to pass from 9/11 related illness. This continues to be a tragedy one family at a time more than 20 years later and he asked all to keep these families in your prayers.

Trustee Graziano stated he has enjoyed driving around the community looking at the decorations that are bringing the holiday spirit. He thanked all the organizations that have held or have

¹ Possibly referring to the Park Avenue bridge she mentioned at a previous meeting earlier this year.

upcoming events planned for the community. He noted it is great to see everyone coming together as one for the holidays and feels this shows the good future for Woodbury.

Trustee Gomez thanked all the work being done by the employees of the Village. He also acknowledged Sandy at the Highland Mills Post Office for discovering two separate cases of mail fraud involving change of addresses for individuals that did not submit a request. She brought both cases to the authorities and it is being investigated. He urged all to be diligent of fraud, especially this time of year, and asked all to look out for each other, especially their elder neighbors.

Trustee Burek stated it was nice to see so many people in attendance for the tree lighting ceremony that was hosted by We Are Woodbury. She thanked all the individuals that donated their time for this great event, as well as the EMS personnel that participated to make it a great success for the children of our community. Although she was unable to attend, she thanked all that were also involved with the Winter Wonderland event that was hosted by the Parks and Beautification Committees. She noted this weekend is the Town's annual Holiday Party at St. Patrick's gymnasium and the EMS Candy Cane run is coming soon as well. She urged all residents to attend or participate in this great events.

Trustee Giacomazza stated he hopes everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and Hannukah. He congratulated the individuals that have been elected to serve on the Town Board, noting the election has finally been certified by the County. He is happy with the results and looks forward to working closely with Supervisor-Elect Burke. While attending the tree lighting, both sides were able to come together. Since that night he has spoken to Supervisor-Elect Burke several times and looks forward to working together as one community. He thanked all that were involved with the tree lighting event, which turned out to be an event that began to unify the community, putting bad blood behind us.

Chief Burke stated the Candy Cane Run will be held on December 18 beginning at 10AM and should be done by noon, ending with a wreath ceremony at the cemetery.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss or comments received, a motion was offered by Trustee Gomez, seconded by Trustee Graziano, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55PM.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Egan, Burek, Giacomazza, Gomez, Graziano
 NOES 0

Desiree Potvin, Village Clerk