

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, in the Municipal Meeting Room, 31 Mountain Avenue, Hillburn, New York 10931, commencing at 7:00PM.

PRESENT: Joseph P. Tursi, Mayor
Bernadette Tarantino, Trustee
David H. McNally, Trustee
Terry Rice, Village Attorney (online)
Eve Mancuso, Village Engineer
Thomas Conklin, DPW Superintendent

RECORDER OF MINUTES: Robin G. Miele, Clerk-Treasurer

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The Hon. Mayor Joseph P. Tursi called meeting to order. Trustee Tarantino led in the Salute to the Flag.

Minutes of the 6/13/2023 Meeting - Approved by Village Board.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee McNally
Noes: None
Abstention: Trustee Tarantino (absent from 6/13/2023 meeting)

Street & Water Commissioners’ Reports – Approved by Village Board.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi, Trustees Tarantino & McNally
Noes: None

Police Commissioner’s Report –

Police Commissioner, Mayor Tursi, reported on the meeting he had attended today with members of the RC Sheriff Department and Village Mayors within Rockland County – RE: Use of Drones and the Installation of License Plate Readers throughout the County. Mayor Tursi advised that a License Plate Reader had been installed on the 4th St. bridge near the Route 59 entrance. These cameras will be utilized as an investigative/reconnaissance tool in the event of a reported incident, not to check the status of registrations, inspections, etc.

-Senior Citizens Org. President, Diana DeGroat, reported that she had been provided with four free tickets to a Boulder’s Baseball Game.

Village Water System –

-Dept. of Health - 5/12/2023 Correspondence – RE: RC Lead and Copper Rule Revisions – Lead Service Line Inventory Information – No further report.

DPW Report - DPW Supt. Conklin

-Boulder Avenue – Individuals are again parking vehicles on both sides of the roadway, impeding access/egress of the garbage truck and emergency vehicles. Letters to area residents were sent in the past; however, Supt. Conklin recommends designating the area from 23 Boulder Ave. to the end of the road as one side of the street parking. Distance to be provided.
-Re-facing of Stop Signs – 10 to 15 Stop signs require either re-facing or replacement. Quotes will be obtained.
-Youth Center Deck – Supt. Conklin recommends the replacement of deck. A quote was obtained from On-Time Contracting, in the amount of \$11,500.00. A second quote is forthcoming.
-RC Health Dept. – 6/15/2023 Mosquito Control Inspection Report – 43 Terrace Avenue DPW Garage – In compliance.
-Rockland Green – 6/27/2023 Grand Re-Opening of Materials Recovery Facility – Supt. Conklin reported he and the DPW staff were unable to attend due to several of the DPW employees were responding to a fire alarm,

H.F.D. Report – Chief Irving Strysko not present. Written report submitted.

-RE: Repair of 5-Quad (Batteries Overcharging) – Repair made by Hendrickson Fire Rescue (Replacement of Alternators): Purchase Order #2251 dated 6/21/2023/Invoice #8801 dated 6/27/2023: \$5,713.75. **Ratified by Village Board.**

Ayes: Mayor Tursi, Trustees Tarantino & McNally
Noes: None

-UTV – Purchase of Heavy Duty Springs – 2nd Asst. Chief Starr is obtaining a quote from Shock Therapy.
-RBC Wealth Mgmt – on 6/20/2023, Mayor Tursi and Clerk-Treasurer Miele attended a zoom meeting with David Rogers of RBC Wealth Mgmt., who provided the status of the Village’s LOSAP plan account.

Status of Grant Applications:

Corona Virus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) – \$100,820.01 - Project: Veterans Memorial Park Pond Restoration – Current expenditures at this date total \$4,561.75.
SAM Grant #24595 - Sponsored by Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick’s Office -\$75,000.00 – Veterans Memorial Park Pond Restoration - Current Expenditures: \$24,354.56
SAM Grant #24626 - Sponsored by Assemblyman Lawler’s Office - \$49,500.00 – Pre-Fab Building - Current Expenditures: \$26,317.00.
Hurricane IDA– FEMA – DR 4615 – RE: 6th St. Culvert –
-Category C Project: Roads and Bridges (Deadline Date: 3/5/2024) Current expenditures: \$65,838.00.
-Category Z Project: Management Costs (Deadline Date: 9/6/2025) On 5/10/2024, FEMA obligated \$26,806.26.
NYS Archives – (LGRMIF) Grant – Approved Funding: \$12,850.00 – Amount Received: \$6,425.00 (50%).
-Project Vendor: NYS Industries for the Disabled, Inc. – Inv. #1013502 - \$12,350.00 **Approved by Village Board.**
Ayes: Mayor Tursi, Trustees Tarantino & McNally
Noes: None
-2022 Crest Grant – Proposed Projects: Garbage Truck & Pre-Fab Garage – Letter/Application filed. Positive Response pending.

RC Community Development – CDBG Program for Fiscal Years 2024-2026

On 6/23/2023, the following were sent to the US Dept. of HUD in regards to the Village of Hillburn's Participation in the CDBG Consortium: 6/21/2023 Letter of Intent, Certified Resolution Adopted on 6/13/2023, two signed and sealed Cooperation Agreements.

-2024 Community Development Program – The following residents were appointed to serve on the CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee: Mary Boone, Bonnie O'Brien, Tanya Cirincione, Joseph Alexander and Eleanor DeGraw.
Approved by Village Board.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi, Trustees Tarantino & McNally

Noes: None

Village Engineer's Report – Engineer Mancuso reported:

-2023 Road Improvements – Bids Rec'd 6/13/23: Tilcon NY, Inc.: \$72,125.00 D.S. Meyer Enter, LLC: \$73,025.00 (tabled) Engineer Mancuso will reach out to Tilcon New York, Inc. to determine if the cost would be lower through the Town of Ramapo or the Town of Clarkstown Contracts.

-5th St DPW Garage – Engineer Mancuso and Supt. Conklin discussed pending building specifications. Supt. Conklin is still attempting to obtain quotes from Salomone.

-6th Street Culvert – RE: DEC Permit Application - The NYS DEC responded with one comment that was addressed and plans have been returned. A Permit may possibly be issued next week and the bidding process can commence.

-Veterans Memorial Park Pond – Construction of a 30' deep well – Project was awarded to MB Drilling on 6/13/2023, to be coordinated with the Village Engineer. Insurance documents are to be provided, as requested by the Village Attorney.

Village Attorney's Report – Village Attorney Terry Rice reported

Noved LOMR-F (Letter of Map Revision) filed on 2/7/2023 – Denied by Floodplain Administrator on 2/10/2023

An Order to Show Cause and Supporting Papers to hold Village of Hillburn (Plaintiffs) in Contempt of Court was filed by the Attorney for Nicholas Cianciaruso, NAC Maintenance, Inc., Craig Flanagan, Jr., Outdoor Properties, LLC, Douglas L. VanSchaik, William Cianciaruso a/k/a/ Bill Diamond and Diamond Truck Service, Defendants.

-RE: Documents filed with RC Court by Village Attorney on 6/7/2023 in opposition to the motion to hold the Village in Contempt. The Judge's decision remains pending.

Introductory Local Law No. 4 of 2023 – A Local Law Enacting Certain Zoning Amendments to Chapter 250, Zoning, of the Code of the Village of Hillburn to expand the Allowable Uses in the LS Local Shopping Center Zoning District

-Attorney Rice advised that the Village Planner, Bonnie Fransen, has completed the Introductory Local Law that will require Hillburn Planning Board review and RC Planning Dept. GML Review.

Filing (Local Law No. 2 of 2023) – A draft Application Form has been supplied to the Village Attorney for review.

Tenant Registry (Local Law No. 3 of 2023) – An Application Form needs to be created.

-Attorney Rice reported he had received the Letter of Filing with the Secretary of State.

-Schedule of Fees – The draft Fee Schedule, as prepared by Mayor Tursi, is being reviewed the Village Attorney.

Tax Certioraris – 2023 Assessment Year – Four Tax Certioraris have been filed. Attorney Rice stated he is working with the Village Assessor.

Village Assessment - NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services – Notice of Tentative 2023 Equalization Rate: 14.22 (Used for 2024 Village Assessment). Hearing Date: 7/17/2023 (Complaint Form and Supporting Documentation Deadline date: 7/10/2023) (2022 Equalization Rate Used for 2023 Village Assessment: 15.63).

Insurance – -NYS Dept. of Civil Service – 2023 Empire Plan "Reporting on Network Benefits" Publication.

\$125,000 BAN – Dated 1/14/2021 (DPW Vehicle, DPW Pre-Fab Garage & Misc. Office Equipment) – No change to 5/23/2023 Financial Report.

Various Capital Improvements (In accordance with 9/1/16 BAN) – No change to 5/23/2023 Financial Report.

Zoning Board of Appeals – No report

Planning Board – No report.

Building/Fire Inspector's Report

-The Village Board acknowledged receipt of copies of correspondence from the Building/Fire Inspector.

Verizon Franchise Renewal – Current franchise expires May 20, 2024.

Escrow – A Status of Escrow Accounts Report dated 6/27/2023 was supplied.

Senior Citizens – President Diana DeGroat reported:

-The Annual Senior Picnic held on 6/12/2023 was a huge success. The Village Board was in receipt of a letter from the Senior Citizens President expressing the organization's appreciation for the Village's contribution to the event.

-Meetings are held at 3:00PM on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month in the Community Room.

Recreation –

Summer Camp Program - Max McClintock, Rockland After School Programs, Inc. d/b/a The Summer Spot Day Camp: 6/1/2023 - 8/31/2023 Use of Hillburn Youth Center to hold a Summer Camp (6/1/2023-8/31/2023)

-Mayor Tursi reported he had spoken with Mr. McClintock on 6/23/2023 regarding the program.

-Insurance and Fee remain pending at this date.

Concert in the Park – A concert that was scheduled to be held on Sunday, 6/25/2023, featuring the "Ladies of the Eighties", was cancelled due to rain and will be rescheduled at a future date.

Hillburn Day – Trustee Tarantino reported that a committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 6/29/2023 at 6:00PM. A date for the event will be determined.

Public Comments –

Bonnie O’Blenis (124 Sixth Street) questioned the use of the new construction at 113 Sixth Street.

-Engineer Mancuso advised Mrs. O’Blenis that she has inspected the dwelling and confirmed it is a single family home, in accordance with the issued Building Permit.

Action Form Filed 6/14/2023 – RE: Recent Blocking Off of Access to Village Property - Upper End of Sixth Street beyond Reservoir Gate – The Complainant states that he is a longtime Village resident who has utilized the trails for several decades. Although he understands the Village’s concern regarding individuals starting campfires, littering, etc., he claims the majority are not residents and are gaining access to the area via the Stone Bridge from Stag Hill in Mahwah, NJ; however, that access is not blocked off. He requests that the small access near the Reservoir Gate be restored and a barrier be placed at the Mahwah entrance.

-Mayor Tursi reported on the action taken: Matter was discussed with complainant. A barrier has been placed at the Mahwah access point, and a small access at the Reservoir Gate area has been restored. Police surveillance of the area will continue.

Application for Use of Community Room

-Trustee Tarantino verbally requested use of the Community Room on 7/10/2023 at 5:30PM – Purpose: Hillburn Scholarship Committee Meeting. (Required Application Form will be filed). **Approved by Board.**

Ayes: Mayor Tursi, Trustees Tarantino & McNally

Noes: None

Correspondence - The Village Board acknowledged receipt of correspondence, regular and email

-Peter A. Baynes, NYCOM Executive Director – Notice of his upcoming retirement in the fall of 2023; and the appointment of Barbara Van Epps to the position of NYCOM Executive Director on 9/1/2023.

-NY State and Local Retirement System – Spring 2023 Member Newsletter (supplied to Hillburn members).

-County of Rockland – Flyer requesting feedback regarding RC’s spending plan of the ARPA funding. (flyer was posted)

-O & R – Request for municipalities to share project schedules.

-Town of Clarkstown – Notice of Public Hearing – Local Law Amending Chapter 290 of Town Code.

Personnel Manual Updates Needed: Pandemic Protocol, Sexual Harassment-Annual Training and update to Holidays.

Voucher Claims and Budgetary Transfers to Cover Approved Expenditures - **Approved by Board.**

Ayes: Mayor Tursi, Trustees Tarantino & McNally

Noes: None

Upcoming Village Board Meetings: Tuesdays, July 11th & August 8th –7:00PM

A MOTION was made by Trustee Tarantino and seconded by Trustee McNally to adjourn the meeting at 7:27PM.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi, Trustees Tarantino & McNally

Noes: None