INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF HEWLETT HARBOR

Minutes of the regular meeting of the

Board of Trustees held September 18, 2023

Time started: 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Hewlett Harbor was held via ZOOM and in person at Village Hall, 449 Pepperidge Road, Hewlett Harbor, New York 11557, on September 18, 2023. Those who attended via ZOOM are annotated with a (z) next to their names.

PRESENT:

Mark Weiss, Mayor Kenneth Kornblau, Deputy Mayor Tom Cohen, Trustee Gil Bruh, Trustee Roman Mazo, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT:

Doreen Grace, Deputy Clerk Hon. Merik R. Aaron. (Ret.), Village Attorney Tariq Khan, Deputy Fire Commissioner Tommy Montemarano, Building Superintendent

ABSENT:

Nicole Giacopelli, Village Clerk Amir Gal, Road Commissioner Nanette Ecker, Pond Commissioner Michael Ryder, Building Inspector

Mayor Weiss opened the meeting up at 7:00 PM.

Public Comment:

-Steve Gold 253 Adams Road, Hewlett Harbor was present on the Zoom just to be well-informed of goings-on within the Village

Acceptance of the Minutes of the BOT June 13, 2023, meeting: Trustee Cohen inquired as to why the topic of the Village Court was not added to the agenda as per the discussion at last board meeting. Mayor Weiss responded that there was to be a further discussion within the last few days in order to add it to the agenda, and that discussion did not occur. Motion made by Trustee Cohen to approve minutes. Seconded by Trustee Bruh. Approved 5-0.

Treasurer's Report: Trustee Mazo read the July and August 2023 treasurer's reports. He mentioned the Village was in a good spot financially. Trustee Cohen suggested we move more money into the NY Class account to accrue more interest. Trustee Mazo said he would look into that option. Trustee Cohen also suggested we remove low-amount tax payers who mostly reside in East Rockaway from our tax map, as the cost to track them down and ensure they pay their taxes outweigh the actual amounts of money we receive from them. VA Aaron said it is too labor intensive to be worth our while.

<u>Police and Security Reports</u> for the months of July and August 2023 was reported by Police Commissioner/Trustee Tom Cohen. Mayor Weiss suggested all security officers receive Narcan training.

<u>Hewlett Bay Fire Department Report</u> for the months of July and August 2023 was reported by Fire Commissioner Tariq Khan.

Committee Reports:

- Public Works Report: DC Grace stated the new snow truck was purchased and in the Village's possession and that VC Giacopelli was receiving several quotes for the snow plow and other extras to ensure reasonable pricing. Mayor Weiss questioned the need for several quotes, and stressed his desire to get everything settled in time for a possible snow event since it was already almost October.
- <u>Willow Pond Update:</u> Mayor Weiss informed the Board that we had no duckweed for the 3rd year in a row. He also suggested we look into purchasing a new aerator, but commented the overall condition of the pond was satisfactory.
- Street Opening: Trustee Cohen stated Gerard LeClair has approved 2 street opening permits to be closed out. He also mentioned the letters the Village received from the residents on Adams Road who wish for the Village of Hewlett Harbor and East Rockaway to share fiscal responsibility for the repaving of Adams Road. Trustee Cohen mentioned he and Mayor Weiss visited Adams Road in person to survey the conditions. Trustee Cohen suggested we send letter to the Adams Road residents acknowledging their request and informing them we are investigating all options. Trustee Cohen also suggested we send the street sweeper to Adams Road.

<u>Building Department Updates:</u> DC Grace reported that there was a total of 11 (eleven) building permits and 4 (four) plumbing permit filed for the months of July and August.

Complaint Report: Trustee Cohen reported 19 (nineteen) complaints were filed in the last month. The majority of the complaints had to do with garbage pickup. Mayor Weiss mentioned he spoke with a new supervisor at Sanitary District #1 named John who seemed receptive and proactive in his quest to ensure our Village received the service necessary. DC Grace expressed a similar opinion after having spoke to John herself earlier last week.

New Business:

- Resolution #8-2023 to increase the Board of Zoning Appeals application fee from \$1,250 to \$2,500 was unanimously passed by the Board.
- Local Law 3- 2023 Noise Ordinance was discussed. Mr. Marvin Welkowitz 1372
 Hewlett Lane explained the physics of sound decibels carrying over space and time in support of the Noise Ordinance. Trustee Mazo asked for clarification. Trustee Bruh questioned the need for the ordinance. It was agreed to table it, and discuss it at a later date.
- Trustee Bruh discussed the progress with the new Building Department program; he, VC Giacopelli and DC Grace have been on multiple Zoom meetings configuring the new program and customizing it to the Village's needs. Trustee Bruh also stated our old Building program is experiencing technical difficulties and is being phased out as we move forward towards the new program.
- Trustee Bruh reported on pricing options for installing gates at 4 locations within the Village. Manual gates will cost approximately \$43,000 total, while license plate reader gates will cost \$50,000 per gate (approximately \$200,000 total). Trustee Bruh asked VA Aaron if it was legally acceptable for the Village to accept donations towards the installation of the gates; VA Aaron said he would look into the matter.
- Security Patrol/Cameras: Trustee Bruh reported on the installation of additional/updated cameras throughout the Village

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 Local Law 2-2023 – This law states that any applicant filing a building permit found to be untruthful shall have his/her building permit denied. After much discussion, an agreement could not be made and the matter was tabled for future discussion.

A motion was made by Trustee Kornblau to go into Executive Session at 9:28 P.M. seconded by Trustee Bruh. Approved 5-0

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Doreen Grace, Deputy Clerk