

VILLAGE OF PELHAM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015, 7:30 PM
VILLAGE HALL – 195 SPARKS AVENUE, PELHAM, NY 10803

MINUTES

1. Call To Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Mayor’s Report
4. Trustees’ Reports
5. Village Administrator’s Report
6. Public Comments

Agenda Items:

Non-Recurring Items		
7.	Authorizing the Appointment of a Secretary to the Village Administrator	Approved
8.	Resolution Authorizing the Award of Insurance Coverage through FOA and Son Insurance Corp. for Property and Casualty Insurance Coverage (Property including Crime, General and Law Enforcement Liability, Public Officials and Employment Practices Liability, Automobile Liability and Physical Damage, and Excess Liability)	Approved
9.	Authorizing an Inter-Municipal Agreement between the Village of Pelham and the County of Westchester for the Village to Obtain Access to the County’s Repository for Integrated Criminalistic Information (RICI) System	Approved
10.	Resolution Authorizing a Firing Range IMA with Westchester County Department of Public Safety	Tabled
11.	Leaf Blower Discussion	Tabled
12.	Resolution Authorizing Revisions to the Chamber of Commerce “Pelham Block Party” Resolution Approved on April 21, 2015	Approved
13.	Other Business	
Recurring Items		
14.	Authorizing Accounts Payable	Approved
15.	Authorizing Minutes of: April 21, 2015	Approved
16.	Adjournment to Executive Session	Approved

Next Regularly Scheduled BOT Meetings:

Tuesday, June 2, 2015
Tuesday, June 16, 2015

All meetings start at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Item # 1 – Meeting called to order:

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Trustee Kagan at 7:35 p.m.

Present were Trustees Ferrara, Marty and Reim.

Trustees Cassidy and Mutti were absent.

Mayor Volpe participated via Skype.

Also present was Deputy Village Clerk Sandy Shriman.

Item # 2 – Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Kagan.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Volpe reported that the Village received a notice from Cablevision regarding a few channel lineup changes. Please check with your provider to make sure your not losing any channels you should have.

Mayor Volpe encouraged members of the Board and Public to attend the Village's annual Memorial Day Parade which will be held on Monday May 25th.

Mayor Volpe thanked the Department Heads and Village Staff for prudent monitoring of the Fiscal Year 2014/15 budget. The Village should end the year slightly under budget.

Trustees' Report:

Trustee Reim wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day and encouraged everyone to attend the parade on Monday, May 25th. The Pelham Block Party will take place on June 6th, anyone wishing to reserve a table should contact the Chamber of Commerce.

Trustee Ferrara reported that the Woodlands Children's Play Area at Wolfs Lane Park is on schedule and the equipment installation should be completed in two weeks. Hopefully the grand opening will take place sometime in June.

The transition to the Villages' new website has begun and we should have a draft layout in a few weeks.

The Prime 16 restaurant will have a grand opening next weekend.

Trustee Marty reported that parking permit sales are very strong. All Parking Lots throughout the Village are near full capacity.

The Leaf Blower Discussion item will be tabled this evening and discussed in two weeks at the June 2nd meeting.

Trustee Kagan read Trustee Mutti's report as she was unable to attend.

The hanging baskets were installed by the Department of Public Works on Friday, May 15th. The baskets were donated by the Pelham Preservation and she expresses her thanks.

The plantings at Pelhamdale Avenue and 1st Street are complete. Many thanks to the Pelham Preservation and Garden Society and the Department of Public Works on this great beautification project.

Finally the Benedict Fountain has running water thanks to the Department of Public Works.

Trustee Kagan reported reported that United Water will be taking over the Village's Water System as of May 31st. Residents in Pelham Heights will receive their final bill from the Village in June and their first bill in August from United Water. The final Village bill in June will contain some frequently asked questions about the transition but everyone should know the source and quality of the water remains unchanged. Going forward service and billing will come directly from United Water.

The Village of Pelham was ranked 20 on local.niche.com out of 11,372 of the best suburbs in America.

Village Administrator's Report:

Village Administrator Yamuder participated via telephone as he was attending a NYSCMA conference and he thanked the DPW for installing the hanging baskets.

Item # 6 – Public Comments

Norman Pure, 616 Timpson Street Pelham Manor, submitted the following statement regarding the Wolfs Lane Development:

“ The Woodland Outdoor Park is an acceptable standalone addition to the Wolfs Lane Park. However, the development project to utilize the park as proposed by SJ Landscape creates a highly objectionable result when we consider what we will lose.

Our Wolfs Lane Park is unique piece of public property in Westchester County, which is fast losing any unbuilt on or so called un-utilized land. Its unusual shape and tenuous size begs us to cherish and protect it as close to its current natural state as possible.

The greatest objection to the proposed development is the overly aggressive use of concrete areas at each of the 5 “Gateway” entrances and beyond. Each gateway entrance features a disc of concrete pads. Once disc is 20 ft diameter, 3 are 32 ft each, and the main one at the north end has a 45 ft diameter. These measurements are calculated based on the assumed size of the bocce courts at a 10 ft width each, since there is no scale on the proposal map.

The question is – why? Why are we covering up what is universally recongnized as the reason for the draw of a park – GREEN SPACE. Why do we want to unnecessarily cover up any of it with concrete?

Many parks in Westchester are used and enjoyed without such use of “artistic” concrete design. The proposal design includes 9 intersections of sidewalk at the sculpture garden area and 20 or more intersections at the north entrance area. Bringing concrete into the park particularly of its size, will make the visitor feel he has not dound any relief from the sidewalk and street he left behind. For example, splitting then rejoining the walkways in the park leaving a triangle for grass and shrubs can be achieved by avoiding th extra concrete pads and simply putting in shrubs alongside the existing walk. Having gateway entrances at each end and the middle is a rather ostentatious touch. Those intended visual magnets will not add to the draw for people to use the park or draw them to shopping the downtown stores. What draws people to shop is need and desire. What Pelham needs are shops that draw. We might be beter off investigating retaul developers for ideas on what type of stores to find or encourage to open in town rather than needlessly paying vital money into an expensive exploitation of our green strip park. It is ironic that the major draw to the park, green space, invites the insinuation of unnecessary concrete. In its current undeveloped state, Sean Jancski, in the SJ Landscape website, describes the Wolfs Lane Park thusly, “It is a beautiful linear greenspace”.

The official size of a bocce court is from 10 to 13 feet wide and from 60 to 100 feet long. Using the minimum dimensions plus what seems to measure out to be a 10 foot space between the proposed 2 courts (again no scale is provided on the development map), both will take up 1800 square feet. This size alone makes the bocce courts highly objectionable. The surface of the courts must be either hard

packed or natural, which would mean a flat grass or dirt area which could be raked flat. This could create a surface which in certain weather conditions would be pretty messy. A correctly designed bocce court would also have a 1 ½ foot sideboard. This would require leaving it up, which would create a liability situation. Or, the boards could be removed when not needed, and stored along with the playing balls in a noy yet existing shed. This in turn would create a monstrous job resetting 280 feet of 18" sideboards in place when needed. This area could also be a congregation spot which might also be noisy. Hardly what would be desired across from the Picture House, our centerpiece attraction, or adjacent to a residential area.

Alternatively, the park currently has a number of benches which, as local merchants note, are marginally used, except for those at the south end of the park, where students gather. Perhaps shifting locations and/or adding a few more bench sites might be necessary. To further enhance the current park: instead of concrete, add plantings of small decorative shrubs and flowers. As memory serves, the installed benches initially cost around \$2,000 each. It appears that all new benches are to be part of the new park. Interestingly, there are no benches indicated in or around Woodland Park. One location where we might consider only a simple "shortcut" path, would be in the eastern remainder of the park on 1st street, running NW to SE. Of course a simple wooden sign, with chiseled lettering and night lighting, surrounded by plantings placed at each end and the middle of the park would state an invitation to walk through, rest and enjoy the park.

It is a beautiful linear greenspace."

Mary Veith, 155 Nyac Avenue, stated she was concerned with the visual obstruction of a new fence in her backyard which separates the Children's Play area at Wolfs Lane Park from her property.

Non-Recurring Items

Item # 7 – Authorizing the Appointment of a Secretary to the Village Administrator

After a brief discussion a motion was then made by Trustee Marty and seconded by Trustee Ferrara to approve the resolution. The vote was approved by a vote of five in favor, none opposed. Trustees Cassidy and Mutti were absent.

Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of a Secretary to the Village Administrator

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Pelham hereby appoints Christopher Scelza, White Plains, New York, effective June 1, 2015, to the position of Secretary to the Village Administrator reporting to the Administrator, with an appropriate job description, subject to the requirements of Civil Service, with a one year probationary period and authorizes the Mayor and the Village Administrator to take the necessary and appropriate actions to effect this appointment.

Item # 8 - Authorizing the Award of Insurance Coverage through FOA and Son Insurance Corp. for Property and Casualty Insurance Coverage (Property including Crime, General and Law Enforcement Liability, Public Officials and Employment Practices Liability, Automobile Liability and Physical Damage, and Excess Liability)

R.J. Impastato reviewed the 2015/16 Property/Casualty Insurance Renewal Report with the Board. After a discussion a motion was then made by Trustee Marty and seconded by Trustee Ferrara to approve the resolution. The vote was approved by a vote of five in favor, none opposed. Trustees Cassidy and Mutti were absent.

Resolution Authorizing the Award of Insurance Coverage through FOA and Son Insurance Corp. for Property and Casualty Insurance Coverage (Property including Crime, General and Law Enforcement Liability, Public Officials and Employment Practices Liability, Automobile Liability and Physical Damage, and Excess Liability)

WHEREAS, the Village of Pelham is renewing Property and Casualty Insurance to provide coverage for the Village of Pelham. Property and Casualty Insurance covers: Property Including Crime; General and Law Enforcement Liability; Public Officials and Employment Practices Liability; Automobile Liability and Physical Damage; and Excess Liability; and

WHEREAS, the Village recommends renewing the Property and Casualty insurance package to Travelers Insurance Company.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village authorizes retention of Insurance through FOA and Son Insurance Corp., with Property and Casualty through Travelers Insurance Company and ACE Insurance Company and American Alternative Insurance Company, to provide umbrella liability coverage, at a total cost of One Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Two dollars (\$185,822), not including applicable taxes, as detailed in the proposal received May 11, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Village Administrator are authorized to take the necessary and appropriate actions to retain coverage for the Property and Casualty Insurance to be effective June 1, 2015 through June 1, 2016.

Item # 9 – Authorizing an Inter-Municipal Agreement between the Village of Pelham and the County of Westchester for the Village to Obtain Access to the County’s Repository for Integrated Criminalistic Information (RICI) System

Trustee Kagan summarized the item. After a brief discussion a motion was then made by Mayor Volpe and seconded by Trustee Marty to approve the resolution. The vote was approved by a vote of five in favor, none opposed. Trustees Cassidy and Mutti were absent.

Resolution Authorizing an Inter-Municipal Agreement between the Village of Pelham and the County of Westchester for the Village to Obtain Access to the County’s Repository for Integrated Criminalistic Information (RICI) System

RESOLVED, that the agreement with the Village of Pelham and the County of Westchester Department of Public Safety for the Purpose of obtaining access to the county’s Repository For Integrated Criminalistic Information (RICI) System is hereby accepted and the agreement is authorized by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pelham; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the term of this agreement is for five (5) years commencing on August 1, 2015 and terminating on July 31, 2020; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Village Administrator and Police Chief are authorized to take the necessary and appropriate actions to effect this agreement.

Item # 10 – Authorizing a Firing Range IMA with Westchester County Department of Public Safety

This item was tabled due to a concern from the Village Attorney over contract language.

Resolution Authorizing a Firing Range IMA with Westchester County Department of Public Safety

RESOLVED, that the Firing Range IMA with the Village Of Pelham and the County of Westchester Department of Public Safety for utilization of the County firing range facility is hereby accepted and the agreement is authorized by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pelham; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the term of this agreement is for five (5) years commencing on day of execution in 2015 and terminating in 2020; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Village Administrator and Police Chief are authorized to take the necessary and appropriate actions to effect this agreement.

Item # 11 – Leaf Blower Discussion

After a brief discussion this item was tabled and will be discussed at the June 2nd meeting.

Item # 12 – Authorizing Revisions to the Chamber of Commerce “Pelham Block Party” Resolution Approved on April 21, 2015.

Trustee Kagan summarized the changes listed in the below resolution. After a brief discussion a motion was then made by Trustee Reim and seconded by Trustee Ferrara to approve the resolution. The vote was approved by a vote of five in favor, none opposed. Trustees Cassidy and Mutti were absent.

Resolution Authorizing Revisions to the Chamber of Commerce “Pelham Block Party”

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pelham approved a Chamber of Commerce “Pelham Block Party” by resolution at a Board of Trustees meeting held on April 21, 2015 for the “Pelham Block Party” to take place on Saturday, June 6, 2015 from 11:00am to 5:00pm, and authorizes the closure of the following streets from 10:00am to 6:00pm:

- 5th Avenue from the train station to the Pelham Art Center (First Street to Third Street).
- **ADD: Harmon Avenue between 5th Avenue and Harmon Place.**
- **ADD: 2nd Street between 4th Avenue and 5th Avenue.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village shall provide Police Department and Public Works coverage as necessary in an effort to promote the “Pelham Block Party” and the local businesses, non-profits and other participating organizations.

Item # 13 – Other Business

No other business.

Item # 14 – Authorizing Accounts Payable

Trustee Ferrera is auditing the Accounts Payable.

After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Ferrera and seconded by Trustee Marty to approve the resolution. The vote was approved by a vote of five in favor, none opposed. Trustees Cassidy and Mutti were absent.

Resolution Authorizing Accounts Payable

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 5-524 of the New York State Village Law, the Board of Trustees shall audit all claims against the Village.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees after audit of the following claims, authorizes payment for services rendered and materials received, for the following items that have been submitted to the Treasurer's Office for payment and authorized by the Village Administrator:

<u>Fund Name:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General Fund	\$58,829.19
Water Fund	\$88,563.32
Capital Projects Fund	\$3,611.00
Trust and Agency Fund	\$3,807.89
CD NYS Main Street Fund	\$0.00
H3 Fund	\$0.00
TE Expand Trust Fund	\$0.00
Grand Total	\$154,811.40

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby approves payment of the above mentioned claims and authorizes payment thereof.

Item # 15 – Authorizing Minutes of: April 21, 2015

A motion was made by Trustee Reim and seconded by Trustee Marty to approve the resolution. The vote was approved by a vote of five in favor, none opposed. Trustees Cassidy and Mutti were absent.

Item # 16 – Adjournment to Executive Session

A motion was then made by Trustee Reim with a second by Trustee Ferrara to adjourn the public portion of the Board meeting at 8:40 pm and go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter after which time the Board would adjourn for the evening. The motion was approved by a vote of five in favor, none opposed. Trustees Cassidy and Mutti were absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Scelza
Assistant to the Village Administrator