

VILLAGE OF HILLBURN
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – 7:00PM

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, in the Municipal Meeting Room, 31 Mountain Avenue, Hillburn, New York 10931, via GoToMeeting.com and Facebook Live, commencing at 7:00PM.

PRESENT:

Joseph P. Tursi, Mayor
Bernadette Tarantino, Trustee
Terry Rice, Village Attorney (via GoToMeeting.com)
Eve Mancuso, Village Engineer (via GoToMeeting.com)
Thomas Conklin, DPW Superintendent

ABSENT:

Bonnie O’Blenis, Trustee

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

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

Minutes of the 10/12/2021 Meeting - Approved by Village Board.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None

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

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None

Police Commissioner’s Report - No report.

Village Water System

-Testing of Meter by SUEZ Water New York – 10/25/2021 Notice from SUEZ – RE: Field Test/Change of Water Meter by National Metering Services. DPW Supt. Conklin will follow up on scheduling an appointment.

DPW Report - DPW Supt. Conklin reported:

2021 Ford F-550 DPW Truck (1/11/2021 PO #2044) – The new truck was delivered on 10/22/2021. Upon noticing a defect on the grill, Supt. Conklin contacted Genesee Valley who stated that a new grill would be ordered and delivered to Hillburn. On 10/25/2021, the truck was taken to Traffic Safety Direct and the spreader was installed; however, the installation of the plow is delayed because it is out of stock.

-A W9 Form was submitted by the dealership via email reflecting a name change from Genesee Valley Motors to Genesee Valley Ford Avon, along with Invoice #G1829 in the amount of \$54,730.00.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Tarantino and seconded by Mayor Tursi authorizing payment of Invoice #G1829 to Genesee Valley Ford Avon, in the amount of \$54,730.00, upon receipt of the replacement grill, and FURTHER, funding will be out of the 1/14/2021 BAN (DPW Truck & Related Equipment).

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None

-Garbage Truck – Supt. Conklin reported the truck will be taken to Sanitation Equipment Corporation for installation of the injector seal.

-E-Waste Collection – Scheduled for Saturday, 11/6/2021 from 8:00AM to 12:00noon.

-Trees – Veterans Memorial Park – Supt. Conklin reported there are a total of 6 trees that need removal (1 large pine, 1 maple and 4 small trees). Perfect Cut is scheduled to make an inspection on 11/8/2021 to provide a quote.

-Firehouse Roof – Wilke Williams made an inspection; however, the roof was not leaking at the time. He is scheduled to re-inspect tomorrow.

-Hudson Valley Water Works Conference – 11/4/2021 Conference: \$40.00 – (Supt. Conklin will provide registration info) **Approved by Village Board.**

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None

H.F.D. Report – HFD Chief Starr not present.

RBC Wealth Management Correspondence: 10/21/2021 email - LOSAP Update, Prospectuses at 10/11/2021 and Portfolio Review (period ending 9/30/2021)

SAM Capital Funding Grant Applications

-SAM Grant - Sponsored by Assemblyman Lawler’s Office – Revised Funding Application: Pre-Fab Building and Back Hoe – Submitted – No further response.

-SAM Grant – Sponsored by Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick’s Office – 6/30/2021 Letter Request for Funding - Proposed Project Application: Veterans Memorial Park Pond Restoration – Application has been filed.

Village Engineer’s Report – Engineer Mancuso reported:

2021 Repavement Project – Funding: CHIPs Program - Proposed Areas: 5th St (from Mountain Ave. to Hickory Ave.), Hickory Avenue (from 5th St. to 6th St.), 6th St. (from Hickory Ave. to Rockland Ave.)

-RE: Milling - Engineer Mancuso reported she is anticipating the start-up of the project next week.

Sixth Street Culvert (area of Boulder Avenue) – Engineer Mancuso reported that Brian Brooker of Brooker Engineering, along with another engineer from their office, inspected the culvert and determined there is damage to the wing wall, head wall and the top of the culvert is cracked. Repair/replacement is required. An engineering report is forthcoming.

Village Attorney's Report –

-NYSIF - Paid Family Leave (PFL) – Attorney Rice reported he has reviewed the information regarding the PFL Policy and it seems to be in order. Further review will be made as to the Village employees' ability to withdraw from the program, in whole or individually.

-Action Form filed 10/12/2021 – RE: 31 Rockland Avenue – RE: Lifting of Sidewalk on Private Residence (Possibly from roots of Village tree) – Property owner is arranging to remove section of sidewalk for inspection by DPW Supt. to determine cause.

Verizon – Franchise Renewal (Dated 5/20/2019 – Expire 5/20/2024) – The Village Board and Village Attorney acknowledged receipt of the 10/8/2021 correspondence from Verizon – RE: Franchise Renewal Notice Requesting Commencement of Formal Renewal Proceedings under Section 626 of the Communications Act.

Satori Energy – Electricity Contract Renewal (Eff 12/2021) – Quote Rec'd 10/26/2021 (Valid Until 5PM-10/27/2021)

A MOTION was made by Trustee Tarantino and seconded by Mayor Tursi to enter into a one year Electricity Contract Agreement with Constellation NewEnergy, Inc., at the rate of \$0.08795 per kWh)

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino

Noes: None

\$125,000 BAN – Dated 1/14/2021 (DPW Vehicle, DPW Pre-Fab Garage & Misc. Office Equipment)

-A Financial Report at 10/20/2021 was supplied.

-A discussion was held on moving forward with plans for the DPW Pre-Fab Garage.

2021 Assessment Roll - No report.

Personnel Manual – Manual is to be updated to include COVID-19 protocol.

Insurance –

Comp Alliance – Recommendations based on 10/15/2021 Inspection of Village-owned Buildings:

- Affix chairs in the meeting room together – Village Board Determination: N/A
- Replace Slide Bolt Entry Lock System with an Exit Panic Device on Exit Door in Downstairs Area of Community Room (Firehouse) – Village Board Determination: Refer to Hillburn Fire Department for follow up.
- Implement a Policy regarding the maximum weight limit load for residential garbage pick-up – Village Board Determination – Referred to Village Attorney and DPW Supt.

New York State Volunteer Firefighter Cancer Benefit Program (1/1/2019 – 1/1/2022)

-10/19/2021 Email from The Hartford, the Village's current provider – RE: Updates and renewal information. The email was forwarded to the Village's insurance agent, Seeley & Durland, who advised that he is looking into VFIS (Volunteer Fire Insurance Services) who also provides this coverage and has a program more competitive than The Hartford's.

Selective Insurance – RE: Commercial Policy – 10/7/2021 Endorsement Notice – Additional Driver.

7:30PM

A MOTION was made by Trustee Tarantino and seconded by Mayor Tursi to suspend the regular meeting in order to continue the Public Hearing regarding Introductory Local Law No. 5 of 2021.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino

Noes: None

7:30PM – Continuation of 9/14/2021 Public Hearing – Introductory Local Law No. 5 of 2021 –

A local law amending Chapter 250 of the Code of the Village of Hillburn

(Adjourned on 9/14/20 to 9/28/2021 allow time for receipt of GML Review from the RC Dept. of Planning; adjourned on 9/28/2021 to 10/12/2021; adjourned on 10/12/2021 to 10/26/2021 to allow response to the recommendations on the GML Review)

Mayor Tursi expressed his exasperation at learning of false accusations being circulated alleging that this Village Board is "selling out" to the Jewish community. The Board has been fully transparent in all areas and that he fights for the interests of all residents, including working diligently to insure that the Split Rock property, containing historical and sacred artifacts and rock formations from the Ramapough Mountain Indians, is protected for any future land development. Further, he stated that he is thoroughly affronted at the disrespect shown at the 10/12/2021 Public Hearing. Specifically, the accusation that he is "committing genocide" and that he is racist; and questioning the integrity and competency of Village Attorney Terry Rice. Mayor Tursi listed many towns and villages represented by Attorney Rice and stated that he is one of the best Land Use Attorneys in New York State, if not the country.

Public Comments – attached

Attorney Rice stated that the Village Planner is still addressing the comments stated in the RC Planning Dept.'s GML Review as discussed at the 9/28/2021 meeting.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Tarantino and seconded by Mayor Tursi that the Public Hearing be adjourned to 11/16/2021, at 7:30PM, in the Hillburn Community Room, 37 5th Street,

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino

Noes: None

7:50PM

A MOTION was made by Trustee Tarantino and seconded by Mayor Tursi to re-open the regular Board of Trustees meeting.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino

Noes: None

-Williamson Law Book Co. – RE: Water/Sewer Billing Software - Inv. #188538 (11/1/2021 – 10/31/2022): \$1,007.00.
Approved by Village Board.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None

-NYS Association of City and Village Clerks – RE: 2021-2022 Annual Membership Dues: \$50.00. **Approved by Village Board.**

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None

Request for Use of Community Room

-Y. Van Dunk – Ladies Auxiliary – Date: 10/28/2021 / Time: 7:00-9:00PM – Executive Meeting **Approved by Board**

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None

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

- NYCOM – 10/26/2021 Advocacy Update – US Senate Passes Bill to Expand Flexibility in Use of ARPA Funds.
- Camanelli & Assoc. – 10/12/2021 Letter – RE: The 5-G Rollout – Controlling the Siting of Wireless Facilities within the Village of Hillburn.
- County of Rockland – Flyers: Early Voting and Volunteers Needed for Get Fresh Food Distribution.
- Verizon Public Sector Sr. Analyst – RE: Review to optimize accounts.

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

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None

Upcoming Village Board Meetings: Tuesday - 11/16/2021 - 7:00PM (to be held in the Community Room)

MOTION was made by Trustee Tarantino and seconded by Mayor Tursi to adjourn the meeting at 8:26PM.

Ayes: Mayor Tursi & Trustee Tarantino
Noes: None