

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
INC. VILLAGE OF BELLE TERRE**

**MINUTES OF: April 19, 2022 PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Mayor: Bob Sandak

Deputy Mayor: Jacquelyn Gernaey

Trustees: Richard Musto, James J. von Oiste

Others present: Village Attorney Eileen Powers, Clerk Treasurer Joanne Raso

Absent with prior notice: Trustee Richard Harris

**PUBLIC HEARING-BUDGET**

The public hearing convened at 8:05 PM. Mayor Sandak asked if there were any questions. There were none. Fiscal Officer Gernaey stated that after two years with no increases, this year there will be an increase in the tax rate of 2.5%. Part of the reason for the increase in expenses is two additions to village staff, a new office assistant and new building inspector.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee Musto and passed. A motion to accept the 2022/2023 budget in the amount of \$1,512,827.23 was made by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee Musto and passed unanimously. A motion to approve the tax rate of \$29.16 per one hundred dollars of assessed value was made by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee Musto and passed unanimously.

**REGULAR MEETING CONVENED AT 8:15 pm**

**I. MINUTES** of March were accepted as read.

**II. TREASURER'S REPORT** for March was accepted

**III. CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Check from CSC Holdings for \$5,000 for a grant for telecommunications and technology needs as per the Cable Franchise Agreement.

**IV. MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Just prior to tonight's meeting the Board met with a sustainable & resilient communities extension professional representative for NY Sea Grant, a committee formed to study the LI Sound and get communities to work together to solve issues such as erosion and pollution.
- The board is considering getting trash bins for the beach, with collection baskets provided so that people walking along the beach can pick up debris, put it in the basket then empty the basket into the trash bin when they return.

**V. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

**1. BEACH:** Commissioner von Oiste reported that now that the bluff revetment work being done by residents along the bluff is complete, the contractors have restored the beach and parking lot to its original state and we are now ready to start putting up the cabanas. Four lifeguards have already been hired for the season and the staircase on the east side of the parking lot has been rebuilt and will be installed soon.

**2. PARKS:** Commissioner Musto reported that the special playground mulch will be installed at the park and that the electric has been installed in the gazebo at the end of Cliff Road.

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**3. ROADS:** Commissioner Solo reported that most potholes have been repaired. The roadside erosion areas along Sts. Orchard Road, Motts Hollow Road & Laurel Path have been reinforced and the drain that was recently put in on Northwind Drive has also been reinforced. He is looking to see if any roads need to be repaved and also needs to identify the drains that need to be cleaned out.

**4. COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION:** Mayor Sandak reported that many new residents attended the Easter Egg Hunt held earlier this month.

**5. HARBOR MANAGEMENT:** Commissioner von Oiste reported the regular monthly meetings of the Harbor Commission have resumed. Moorings have been put back in place, there is a new bay constable and they are starting an oyster program to remove the nitrogen from the water.

**6. CODE REVIEW:** Trustee Gernaey reported they are reviewing the code for storage containers.

**7. CONSTABULARY:** Commissioner Sandak reported March was a slow month with only 22 calls for service. Sgt. Zeoli accompanied the technician from Firematic to test all of the fire extinguisher in the Village buildings.

### **VII: MOTIONS:**

- 1. Motion** by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee Musto to approve abstract of audited vouchers in the amount of \$46,794.69 for payment. Motion carried.
- 2. Motion** by Trustee Musto, seconded by Trustee von Oiste to approve the appointment of the Inspectors of Election as follows: Betsy Joyner, Erika Gronethal and Kathy Yunger; alternate inspector Judy Zaino. Further, that a stipend of \$195 be paid to those persons who serve on Election Day. Motion carried.
- 3. Motion** by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee von Oiste, to give the mayor authority to sign a contract with the Port Jefferson Fire District upon approval of the Village Attorney. Motion carried.
- 4. Motion** by Trustee Musto, seconded by von Oiste to pass a resolution that the Village Hall at 55 Cliff Road be designated as the Village Polling Place. Registration day has been abolished and the Suffolk County rolls will be used. Election day will be held on Tuesday, June 21 and the hours during which the polls shall be open shall be from Noon to 9 pm.
- 5. Motion** to pass a resolution to amend the Belle Terre Village policy requiring all Village employees to be fully vaccinated or comply with a weekly testing schedule by eliminating, for now, the weekly testing requirement. The Board will revisit the testing requirement periodically to determine if resumption of weekly testing for unvaccinated employees is necessary.

### **MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:**

#### **Topics discussed:**

- Concern about a low hanging tree over Old Homestead Road, being hit by trucks and people in cars are afraid to drive under it.
- Estate fence along the east end of the beach parking lot and moving the plaque dedicated to Denise Abelson to a location nearer to the beach pavilion
- Traffic committee did meet to start review of solutions to speeding on Cliff Road.