

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

**MINUTES OF:     September 20, 2022 MEETING**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor: Bob Sandak; Deputy Mayor: Jacquelyn Gernaey

Trustees: Richard Musto, Richard Harris, James J. von Oiste

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

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO VILLAGE CODE**

- 1. Local Law No. 3 of 2022:** Proposal to add Chapter 21 of the Village Code to amend the terms of office for mayor and trustees from 2 years to 4 years. This would eliminate the need to hold a village election every year. Once the election for the trustees whose terms expire in 2023 is held, elections would be conducted biennially in even numbers years thereafter. Passage of this law is subject to permissive referendum as per NYS law, which means the Village Clerk must post notices of the law and anyone opposing can file a petition to have a permissive referendum placed on the next election ballot. After some discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Musto to close the public hearing. Motion was seconded by Trustee Gernaey and passed unanimously. Motion was made by Trustee von Oiste, seconded by Trustee Musto, to pass a resolution adopting Local Law No. 3 of 2022, adding Chapter 21 of the Village Code.
- 2. Local Law No. 4 of 2022:** To amend Section 161 of Village code to update parking areas that require a parking sticker. After explanation and discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Harris, seconded by Trustee Gernaey to close the public hearing. A motion was made by Trustee Musto to pass a resolution adopting Local Law No. 4 of 2022. Motion was seconded by Trustee von Oiste and passed unanimously.

**REGULAR MEETING:**

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

**II. TREASURER’S REPORT** for August was accepted.

**III. CORRESPONDENCE:** There was no correspondence to report.

**IV. MAYOR’S REPORT:** Mayor Sandak reported there were several small things done over the last few months to hopefully be helpful to the village:

- A “free little library” has been added to the park
- A beach cleanup station has been placed at Knapp Beach
- A new sign has been installed at the village entrance and deer resistant flowers planted in the area around it.
- Lines have been repainted on Cliff Road between the Gatehouse and Community Center.

**V. COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS:**

**1. BEACH:** The cabanas are being taken down and the beach stairs will be down by next weekend.

**2. BUILDINGS:** The contract is being signed for the installation of the generator at the community center. The cost is being covered by a grant.

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3. **PARKS:** A tree has been trimmed at the circle to allow a better view of the gazebo by the security camera; one of the cameras at the beach has been replaced by a high-resolution camera.
4. **ROADS:** The lines on Cliff Road between the Gatehouse and Community Center have been repainted; drainage system on Northwind Drive has been re-supported and storm drains have been cleaned out with a vac truck. The Village received its CHIPS reimbursement for the road paving work done earlier this year.
5. **HARBOR MANAGEMENT:** At the last meeting it was noted that the bay constables are understaffed and underfunded.
6. **CONSTABULARY:** August was a busy month with 55 calls for service including complaints about construction starting before 8 am.
7. **APPOINTMENTS; RESIGNATIONS:** Mayor Sandak announced the promotion of Constable John Driscoll, a long-time employee, to Constable Sergeant.

**VII: MOTIONS:**

1. **Motion** by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee Harris was passed unanimously to approve for payment the abstract of audited vouchers in the amount of \$54,133.31.
2. **Motion** by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee Harris, was passed unanimously to update the village's harassment policy to comply with NYS law.

**MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:**

- A resident asked if the handyman could cut back the bushes at the end of Sts. Orchard Road.
- Discussion about the beach mat to be used in the parking lot at Knapp Beach for handicap accessibility.
- Question as to when an automatic handicap door will be installed at the community center.
- A resident says that he was unable to enjoy 15 to 20 days of summer because of loud parties being held at the property next to his. Discussion followed about the property and what the village is doing to correct the situation.
- A resident questioned the motion from last month's meeting about prosecuting a resident for tree removal.