

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

MINUTES OF: February 21, 2023 MEETING

PRESENT: Mayor: Bob Sandak

Deputy Mayor: Jacquelyn Gernaey

Trustees: Richard Harris, James J. von Oiste, Michael Solo

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

PUBLIC HEARING-TAX CAP OVERRIDE

Local Law No. 1 of 2023 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c. Mayor Sandak explained that this is done every year in the event that it is necessary to increase the tax rate above the allowed 2 percent in order to balance the budget. He then opened the floor to comments. One resident asked what is the possibility that the village may need to exceed the tax cap. Mayor Sandak said there is no way to be sure, as we are just starting the budget process for the next fiscal year, but that we have not had to exceed the cap in many years. There being no other questions, a **MOTION** to close the public hearing was made by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee Solo and was passed.

MOTION to pass a resolution adopting **Local Law #1-2023** to authorize a property tax levy in excess of the limit established by General Municipal Law was made by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee Harris and was passed unanimously.

REGULAR MEETING CONVENED AT 8:10

I. MINUTES of January were accepted as read.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT for January was accepted.

III. CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters requesting use of the Community Center:

1. Caroline Engelhardt sponsoring Lauro Conce for a birthday party on Sat., May 13

IV. MAYOR'S REPORT:

- The beautification project spearheaded by Tony Gitto and Ted Lucki is well underway and making a noticeable change by clearing the wooded areas of downed trees on residents' properties and village properties.
- There are several items in the governor's proposed budget that could have an effect on small municipalities, such as the housing compact, part of which will require multifamily development within a half mile of MTA rail stations. While this will not affect us directly, it could cause more traffic in our area. There is no change in the amount of state aid we receive both per capita and CHIPS.

V. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

1. BUILDINGS: Commissioner Harris reported the installation of the generator is complete and the building is now ready to be used in emergencies. Safety bollards are to be installed in front of the generator.

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2. PARKS: Commissioner Solo is looking into an organic treatment for tick control for the park. There is a broken piece of equipment that will be removed and maybe replaced. The windscreen on the pickleball court is in disrepair and will be repaired.

3. ROADS: Commissioner Solo stated he is continuing to survey our roads and is building a target list for road repaving.

4. COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: Upcoming events: Indoor Tailgate Party, Saturday, March 4; Community Garage Sale, Saturday March 25 and the annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 1.

5. FINANCE: Fiscal Officer Gernaey reported that the annual audit was recently completed, this year by a new auditing firm, and the report was favorable.

6. CONSTABULARY: Commissioner Sandak reported 26 calls for service in January.

VII: MOTIONS:

- 1. Motion** by Trustee Gernaey, seconded by Trustee von Oiste was passed unanimously to approve for payment the abstract of audited vouchers in the amount of \$49,489.66

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:

A resident was concerned about the number of trees that were marked, supposedly for removal, on a property on Seaside Drive.