

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
INC. VILLAGE OF WESTBURY
VILLAGE HALL CONFERENCE & BOARD ROOM
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024
6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro
Trustee Steven L. Corte
Trustee Beaumont A. Jefferson
Trustee William B. Wise
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello

Staff present: Chrissy Kiernan, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Anna Vikse, Village Attorney
Joe Brilliantino, Superintendent of Buildings
Phil Fulgieri, Superintendent of Public Works

Mayor Cavallaro opened the Meeting of the Board of Trustees at approximately 6:30PM with a verification of a quorum.

1. Resolution to Approve Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of August 1, 2024

On motion by Trustee Corte, seconded by Trustee Jefferson, it was RESOLVED to approve the Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2024 as prepared, and distributed by Clerk-Treasurer Kiernan. The Board was polled, all present voting "Aye" (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

2. Appointment of Code Enforcement Officer Trainee, William Anderson

On motion by Trustee Abbatiello, seconded by Trustee Jefferson, it was RESOLVED to approve the appointment of Code Enforcement Officer Trainee, William Anderson, at a salary of \$41,600.00. The Board was polled, all present voting "Aye" (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

3. Appointment of Part-time Special Assistant to the Mayor, Miguel Castro

On motion by Trustee Abbatiello, seconded by Trustee Jefferson, it was RESOLVED to approve the appointment of Part-time Special Assistant to the Mayor, Miguel Castro, at an hourly rate of \$30.00. The Board was polled, all present voting "Aye" (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

4. Tax Certiorari: G&J Rudolph and Butlin Realty

Trustee Corte reported that Village Attorney Vikse had settled three tax certiorari cases pending against the Village. The following Resolution was offered by Trustee Corte:

RESOLVED, by the Board of trustees of the Incorporated Village of Westbury, to approve the following tax certiorari settlements:

Petitioner, G&J Rudolph Inc., has brought proceedings to review the Village's real property tax assessments for the years 2018/19 through 2024/25 at the property known as 199 and 203 Schenck Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590 (s/b/l 10/192/13, 15), which will be settled for a refund of \$8,800.00, with a change in assessment from \$1,766,460 to \$1,350,000, to be apportioned equally between the two lots.

Petitioner, G&J Rudolph Inc., has brought proceedings to review the Village's real property tax assessments for the years 2017/18 through 2024/25 at the property known as 481-487 Maple Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590 (s/b/l 10/238/103,111), which will be settled for a refund of \$4,000.00, with a change in assessment from \$1,163,550 to \$950,000.

Petitioner, Butlin Realty, Inc., has brought proceedings to review the Village's real property tax assessments for the years 2018/19 through 2024/25 at the property known as 481-487 Maple Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590 (s/b/l 10/99/36-37, 38-39), which will be settled for a refund of \$3,500.00, with a change in assessment from \$1,768,110 to \$1,450,000.

Motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution was seconded by Trustee Jefferson. The Board was polled, all present voting "Aye" (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

5. Westbury Soccer request for office and storage space

The Board discussed the request of Westbury Soccer to use certain space in the recreation complex for office usage and storage. No action was taken.

6. Discussion of Proposed Local Law to raise the threshold of the veteran's exemption

Trustee Corte proposes to raise the maximum exemption available to veterans, as per a recent amendment to the NYS Real Property Tax Law. Attorney Vikse will prepare a draft of the Bill, to be presented to the Board.

7. Discussion of the TOD Application of Alpine Realty

Mayor Cavallaro explained that the Applicant is not prepared to present their application tonight, and the Board will open the public hearing and adjourn it until the November meeting.

8. Maple Avenue and Union Avenue Streetscape Project Update

Superintendent Brillantino updated the Board on the streetscape project. The contractor will be planting trees in late October. Maple Avenue will be milled and paved in October

9. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Cavallaro led the Pledge of Allegiance.

10. New Business

A. Public hearing to consider the application of Alpine Residential LLC for the development of a 187-unit multi-family dwelling located at 357 Scally Place

The Mayor opened the hearing, stating that the Applicant was not ready to go forward with the hearing. Attorney Vincent Tamborino appeared for the Applicant.

On motion by Mayor Cavallaro, seconded by Trustee Abbatiello, it was RESOLVED to adjourn the hearing and continue it to November 7, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. The Board was polled, all present voting "Aye" (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

B. Public Hearing- Bill No. 5 of 2024, Amending Section 237-80 of the Vehicle and Traffic Code

Clerk Treasurer Kiernan read the notice of public hearing.

Mayor Cavallaro opened the hearing by giving a history of the parking restrictions on Earl Street. Further, the Mayor stated that the Board's general policy, absent a safety concern, is to try and grant the wishes of residents in the immediate area when considering a request for a change in parking restriction. In this case, the residents of 99, 105 and 115 Earl Street wanted the Board to remove all parking restrictions in front of their houses.

The Mayor stated that he would like to make a slight amendment to the Bill as distributed, stating that the parking restrictions should extend from Carle Road to a point on the easterly property line of 115 Earl Street. The Mayor asked for public comments, and, seeing none, asked for a motion.

Motion to close the hearing was made by Trustee Abbatiello and seconded by Trustee Jefferson. The Board was polled, all present voting "Aye" (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

Trustee Corte motioned to adopt the Bill as follows:

BILL 5
VILLAGE OF WESTBURY

A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING SECTION 237-80 OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTBURY.

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Westbury as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

In order to promote public safety and address the concerns of area residents, the Board of Trustees finds it advisable to adjust the locations in which parking is prohibited during certain hours on Earl Street.

Section 2. Amendment of §237-80 of the Vehicle and Traffic Code.

Section 237-80 is hereby amended as follows:

In accordance with the provisions of § 237-25, no person shall park a vehicle between the times specified upon any of the following described streets or parts thereof:

Name of Street	Side	Hour/Days	Location
Earl Street	North	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon/Weekdays	<u>From Carle Road to a point on the east property line of 115 Earl Street</u>

Section 3. Severability.

If any section or provision of this local law shall be adjudged to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other part of this local law, or the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the section or provision or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

The Motion was seconded by Trustee Wise, and the Board was polled, all present voting “Aye” (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

C. Block Party Application- Lexington Street between Ellison Avenue and Carle Place

The Board reviewed a block party application for September 21, 2024, with a rain date of September 22, 2024. Clerk-Treasurer Kiernan verified that the requisite number of signatures was received on the application. Motion to approve the application was made by Trustee Abbatiello, and seconded by Trustee Jefferson. The Board was polled, all present voting “Aye” (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

D. Resolution Authorizing Westbury Village Justice to apply for a New York State Justice Court Assistance Program Grant in the 2024-25 Grant Cycle

Clerk-Treasurer Kiernan reported that Village Justice Dana Boylan was requesting permission from the Board of Trustees to apply for a New York State Justice Court Assistance Program Grant in the 2024-25 Grant Cycle, to be used for certain security updates at Village Hall.

On motion by Trustee Jefferson, the Board resolved to authorize the Westbury Village Justice Court to apply for a New York State Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) Grant in the 2024-2025 grant cycle for an amount up to \$30,000.00. The motion was seconded by Trustee Corte, and the Board was polled, all present voting “Aye” (5-0).

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye

Trustee William Wise Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello Aye

11. Board Liaison/Committee Reports

A. Trustee Steven Corte

1. Assessor – Trustee Corte reported that applications for all Village real property tax exemptions are available for the upcoming year. The applications are available in the Clerk's office. In addition, Trustee Corte stated that the Board will be considering a local law to raise the exemptions available to veterans to the maximum available under state law.
2. Seniors – Trustee Corte reported that the Westbury Seniors will hold Bingo on November 8, 2024.

B. Trustee Beaumont Jefferson

1. Recreation – Trustee Jefferson reported that the recreation after-school program has started, with about 20 children currently attending.
2. Recreation- Table Tennis is taking place on Tuesday and Thursday. Yoga is on Mondays. Empire Athletics will be using the gym on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The Bocce tournament is upcoming.
3. Westbury Arts Summer Concert Series was a great success this summer.
4. Westbury Arts will hold their annual gala on November 13, 2024.

C. Trustee Abbatiello

1. Audit and Claims – Trustee Abbatiello reviewed the Claims and Expenditures for the period August 2, 2024 through September 5, 2024 in the amount of \$1,614,163.03, of which, \$1,399,161.88 is from Capital Expenses and \$215,001.15 is from the General Fund. Trustee Abbatiello made a motion to submit bills for payment, seconded by Trustee Jefferson. Motion to approve was passed; The Board was polled, all present voting “Aye” (4-0)

Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro	Aye
Trustee Steven Corte	Aye
Trustee Beaumont Jefferson	Aye
Trustee William Wise	Aye
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye

2. Trustee Abbatiello stated that the semi-annual street fair will be taking place this weekend. Please come out and support the local vendors.
3. Trustee Abbatiello reminded everyone that school has started, and please drive safely.

D. Trustee William Wise

1. NCPD 3rd Precinct Report – Trustee Wise reported 6 auto accidents, 0 moving violations and 12 parking violations issued for August.

E. Mayor's Report

1. Finance & Public Works – Mayor Cavallaro reported that \$7 million Maple and Union Avenues Streetscape Project funded by Nassau County Legislator Siela Bynoe is going well, and may be done by the end of the year.
2. Mayor Cavallaro stated that the Village will soon begin the annual tree planting program.
3. Mayor Cavallaro reported that he and other representatives from the Village met with the new commander of the Third Precinct of the Nassau County Police Department to discuss priorities. Mayor Cavallaro expressed a particular interest in increased traffic enforcement.
4. Mayor Cavallaro said that he hoped to see everyone at the street fair this coming weekend, and encouraged everyone to come to see the Asbury Shorts Film Festival at the Piazza.
5. Mayor Cavallaro stated that we will be upgrading the DPW Vehicle Fleet with grant monies.
6. The Hispanic Heritage festival will be taking place on September 22, 2024, in the piazza and other various locations.
7. Mayor Cavallaro reported that Westbury has been designated as a "Pro-Housing Community" by New York State, which means that we are eligible to apply for various state funding. The Village intends to apply for grants to make upgrades to the Piazza, as well as make some park improvements, including making the parks more accessible.

12. Public Comments


Mayor Cavallaro opened the meeting up to public comments.

- A. Resident, Chester McGibbon, 502 Alicia Drive – Mr. McGibbon inquired about the Pro-Housing Community Status, and asked Mayor Cavallaro to specifically talk about the impact to schools and the school budget. Mayor Cavallaro stated that new multi-family development often has very little impact on the numbers of school children attending school, but may be accretive to the tax base. In fact, the School District has decreased taxes in the past two years. Mayor Cavallaro stated that he and the governor and many others agree that there is great need for housing, as both rental and purchase priced are up because of the demand on the housing supply. The Board had disagreed with the Governor on her last two attempts to mandate certain kinds of housing, and advocated for the Governor to encourage additional housing with incentives, which is what New York is now doing. The Village of Westbury was implementing housing friendly policies prior to the Governor's initiative, but the Village is excited to take advantage of the grant programs. Mr. McGibbon inquired as to whether the School District has been a part of the conversation when considering the TOD Zone legislation. Mayor Cavallaro responded in the affirmative.
- B. Mr. McGibbon further stated that there is a series of lights out on Baldwin Drive. Superintendent Fulgieri stated that he called the electrical contractor to look into the issue.

- C. Mrs. Linda Mobius asked whether there was a full-sized pool table in the recreation department complex, to which Trustee Jefferson responded no.
- D. Mr. Campbell inquired as to whether certain curb lights were fixed. Superintendent Fulgieri will look into the matter. Mr. Campbell stated that there is often dog waste at a certain park in the Village, and inquired as to whether a dog waste station can be installed. Mayor Cavallaro said that the Village will look into it. Mr. Campbell reported that there is a house on Waterbury Lane that has a box truck parked overnight. Code enforcement will look into this. Mr. Campbell inquired as to parking restrictions at Northcote Drive and Parkwood Drive.

On a motion duly seconded, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by:



Chrissy Kiernan, Village Clerk-Treasurer