

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
INC. VILLAGE OF WESTBURY
VILLAGE HALL CONFERENCE & BOARD ROOM
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023
6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Peter I. Cavallaro
Trustee Steven L. Corte
Trustee Beaumont A. Jefferson
Trustee William B. Wise (arrived at 6:40pm)
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 17, 2023

On motion by Trustee Corte, seconded by Trustee Abbatiello, it was RESOLVED to approve the Work Session/Regular Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2023 as prepared and distributed by Clerk-Treasurer Kiernan. 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		Absent
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye	

2. Discuss/Review LIRR Maintenance Agreement

Mayor Cavallaro reviewed the proposed LIRR Maintenance Agreement with the Village. The Village has the responsibility of clearing trash and snow from the pedestrian plaza. The LIRR would be responsible for landscaping and would clean drywells. The Village would maintain trees and some plantings in the plaza. Trustee Corte inquired as to responsibility of the Village of one of the retaining walls. Mayor Cavallaro explained that it is the wall located at the corner of Railroad and School and it wraps around on the south side and a little bit on the north side and should not be an issue. Trustee Abbatiello inquired as to what happens if it gets hit and Mayor Cavallaro responded that the Village would be responsible for replacing it. Mayor Cavallaro further noted that at the end of the agreement, the pedestrian plaza reverts to the LIRR and they are required to maintain it. The maintenance agreements will be in effect for 20 years after the signature date with two possible 5-year extensions.

3. Review Westbury Arts Request Regarding Wine & Beer Service at Events

On motion by Trustee Jefferson, seconded by Trustee Abbatiello, it was RESOLVED to approve the request from Westbury Arts for wine and beer service at various events through December 31, 2023 as outline in their request letter. 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		Absent
Trustee Vincent Abbatiello	Aye	

4. Trustee Wise arrived at 6:40pm.

5. Discuss/Approve purchase of display cases for VOW Military Collection

On motion by Trustee Corte, seconded by Trustee Abbatiello, it was RESOLVED to approve the purchase of display cases for the Village of Westbury Military Collection from Store Supply Warehouse, the lowest quote received, in the amount of \$1,373.05. 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

6. Continued discussion of WFD request regarding elimination of street parking

The Board discussed the Westbury Fire Department's request to eliminate a section of street parking. No action was taken.

7. Continued discussion of Myrtle Ave. parking

The Board continued to discuss resident parking concerns on Myrtle Avenue. No action was taken.

8. Discuss September Schedule of Events

The Board discussed upcoming Village events in September and several event flier were distributed.

9. Assessment Matter

The Assessor discussed a property that may be coming onto the tax roll. No action was taken.

10. Bid Opening Maple/Union Streetscape Project

Earlier in the day, the Village held a bid opening for the Maple & Union Streetscape Project funded by Nassau County Legislator Siela Bynoe. There were several issues addressed by staff to the Mayor regarding the bid opening the day before the bid opening, including: (1) a late amendment to the specifications, which was sent to bidders several hours before the bids were due to be opened, (2) a late response to an RFI from a bidder, and a failure to respond to another RFI, (3) missing bid specifications for several items, and (4) a clarification as to whether a certain area that had already been renovated was going to be redone, which had still not been clarified by the Engineer. Some of these issues were also brought up at the bid opening by the bidders. After the bid opening, the Engineer also indicated that Nassau County DPW had not formally approved the plans which were included in the bid packets. The bids had not been analyzed by the Engineering firm and it is not known what firm would have been the lowest responsible bidder.

11. Sidewalks – list notice of defect letters prioritized

Mayor Cavallaro discussed the 2023 sidewalk list with the Board and how it is to be prioritized. All residents on the list must have sent a notice of defect letter to the Village. The Village then inspects the sidewalks and determines if the repair is necessary. If so, the resident is placed on the sidewalk repair list. The Village budgets \$50,000 typically for sidewalk repair. Any property that is not on this year’s list will move to next year’s list or may obtain a building permit to repair their sidewalk on their own.

12. Executive Session

At 6:20pm, Mayor Cavallaro made a motion to enter into executive session.

At 6:30pm, Executive Session ended and no action was taken.

13. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Cavallaro led the Pledge of Allegiance.

14. Request from Padre Pio Prayer Group of St. Brigid’s Church for Processional on Friday, September 22, 2023 at 7:00pm

On motion by Trustee Corte, seconded by Trustee Jefferson, it was RESOLVED to approve the request from Padre Pio Prayer Group of St. Brigid’s Church for Processional on Friday, September 22, 2023 at 7:00pm. 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

15. Resolution Authorizing Mayor Cavallaro to Execute Maintenance Agreement between the Village of Westbury and the Long Island Railroad relates to the Third Track Project

The Long Island Railroad and its contractor made improvements to the Village and this agreement outlines what is responsible by each party for train station improvements. It covers responsibilities of the Village, County, and Railroad as it relates to improvements. The agreement was negotiated over two years and in final form.

On motion by Trustee Jefferson, seconded by Trustee Abbatiello, it was RESOLVED to approve the LIRR Maintenance Agreement with the Village of Westbury as presented and authorize Mayor Cavallaro to execute the document in the name of the Village. 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

16. Westbury Arts Event Request

Mayor Cavallaro reported that Westbury Arts rents a building from the Village, which was constructed for their benefit using DRI funds. They use it exclusively for their art gallery, as a meeting space, and for events. Under their lease with the Village, they are required to get approval from the Village for serving wine. No hard liquor or beer. Pursuant to the lease they provided a list of events.

On motion by Trustee Corte, seconded by Trustee Jefferson, it was RESOLVED to approve the Westbury Arts request to serve wine at the events listed in their request through December 31, 2023.

17. Resolution Authorizing Mayor Cavallaro to Execute the Community Development Block Grant Subrecipient Agreement with Nassau County

Mayor Cavallaro explained that the Village is a member of a Nassau County consortium, a group of municipalities in the county in which federal community development funds are funneled. We have participated and received funds for all of the years that this agreement has been in effect. This agreement will be for a future allocation we are seeking. We have used it for roadwork/sidewalks and for the Senior Citizens of Westbury. This year we also asked for software upgrades in our building department.

On motion by Trustee Abbatiello, seconded by Trustee Wise, it was RESOLVED to authorize Mayor Cavallaro to Execute the Community Development Block Grant Subrecipient Agreement with Nassau County. 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

18. Board Liaison/Committee Reports

A. Trustee Steven Corte

1. Building and Planning Reports & Assessor Reports. Trustee Corte reminded all that exemptions must be in by January 2nd to qualify, primarily the senior exemption. There will be reminders until the December meeting. The Assessment Department is doing administrative clean-up and if you are a veteran, you should have received a letter asking for updated information. Once a veteran has a veteran’s exemption, it is good for lifetime at that dwelling. If anyone has any questions, you can arrange to speak with him.
2. Senior Citizen Liaison Committee- Reminder, October 21st at the Community Center will be the Semi-annual Senior Bazaar major fundraiser. Please do your best to support it and we will have one more reminder at our October Meeting.

B. Trustee Beaumont Jefferson

1. Recreation – Trustee Jefferson thanked the recreation staff and village staff for a successful summer recreation program in partnership with Westbury Arts. It ended with an end of camp celebration. The program has been going on for several years and received a lot of interest. We will start planning for 2024. The Village’s after-school program has twenty-six village residents enrolled. We had 32 last year, but still have spots available. There will be a Bocce Tournament on September 17th with groups from Mineola and Syosset. The Village’s Hispanic Heritage Celebration will be on September 24th at 12:30pm in the Piazza. On September 8th will be the 12th Annual Asbury Shorts Film Festival from 7-10pm in the Piazza.
2. WAC- Westbury Arts will host their October 24th Gala fundraiser at Westbury Manor. We encourage you to attend and support the arts council by purchasing a ticket. It is their largest fundraising event, and we would love to see you there.

C. Trustee William Wise

1. NCPD 3rd Precinct Report – In August, there were 3 automobile accidents, 8 moving violations, and 7 parking tickets.

D. Trustee Vincent Abbatiello

1. Audit and Claims – Review and approval of Claims and Expenditures for the period August 4, 2023 through September 7, 2023 in the amount of \$601,240.33 of which, \$303,344.66 is from Capital Expenses and \$297,895.67 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" (5-0).

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

2. Trustee Abbatiello also reminded residents to please attend the upcoming Business Improvement District (BID) Street Fair on Saturday, September 9, 2023. There will be vendors and food trucks. There will also be a 9/11 Memorial program at the Westbury Fire Department fire house on Old Country Road at 10am. Please come down to join. Lastly, school has started and on the first day of school there were two auto accidents, one person drove into a home and in the other accident, two cars collided on Post Avenue. School buses have cameras now. Drivers should be mindful and drive carefully.

E. Mayor's Report

1. Finance
2. Public Works

Mayor Cavallaro reported that the Village has been busy with events that residents have heard about and events that are being planned. On Wednesday, September 13, 2023, the Secretary of State of New York State will be here for a ribbon cutting for the downtown revitalization initiative to mark the end of improvements. The event will be at 10:30am in the Piazza.

We are planning an event to meet the artist who created the artwork at the Westbury Long Island Railroad Train station. If you visit the train station, you will see art glass designed by a young man who is terrific artist that depicts village history. He was chosen by a panel because he did a lot of research and came up with a great concept. He familiarized himself with the Village and included elements of the children's library, The Space, churches, Tuskegee Airmen Spann Watson, and the connection to Westbury with the airline industry at Mitchell Field as Charles Lindbergh took off from there. The event will be held in the ticket office on September 28th from 4-6pm.

The \$7 million streetscape project on union and maple from a grant from Legislator Siela Bynoe will start soon. Mayor Cavallaro wished that everyone had a good summer.

19. Public Comments

Mayor Cavallaro opened the meeting up to public comments.

Mrs. Mobius, of 484 Winthrop Street mentioned that the streetlamp on Cross street across from 460 Cross street, which was previously broken and then fixed by the Village, but is now hanging by wire. Superintendent Fulgieri said that our contractor will fix it soon.

Mr. Ade stated that Rockland Street is being used as a "speedway". Mayor Cavallaro responded that this is a police issue, and that virtually every street has people who speed, and that the Village asks for police patrols on a regular basis and for increased patrols. However, the police department is understaffed and we do not get the police patrols we deserve. Mr. Ade asked about speed bumps, and Mayor Cavallaro responded that State law does not allow the bumps. While it sounds like a solution that might have some merit, we cannot do that.

Mr. Ade then asked about the CVS on Post Avenue closing. Mayor Cavallaro responded that the Village has no control over what businesses open or close in the Village, but that the Village would be receptive to another drug store at that location.

Ms. Arlene Olson inquired as to the status of the sidewalk in front of 627 Duke Street. Superintendent Fulgieri stated that he would investigate the status of that sidewalk.

Ms. Delphine Way stated funeral processions have stopped driving through the neighborhood and thanked the Mayor for speaking with the cemetery. Mayor Cavallaro said that Clerk-Treasurer Kiernan had called them to ask, but that the Village cannot guarantee anything. Ms. Way then asked about the sidewalk in front of 540 Queen Street, where there is an orange arrow marked. Superintendent Fulgieri stated that the arrow means that it is marked for repair. Ms. Way then inquired whether anyone has noticed an increase in rats. Mayor Cavallaro stated that he was not aware of construction which would have disturbed the rat population, but that possibly if 7-Eleven was not storing garbage properly, that could be attracting them. The Village will report to the county health department.

Mr. Chester McGibbon of 502 Alicia Drive reported that he had seen two rats strolling leisurely, but that he took care of it.

Mr. Byron Campbell reported that he called about a dining room chair left in vacant field, that someone from DPW came but that the chair is still there. Superintendent Fulgieri stated that he would have someone take care of it tomorrow, but that that location is state property. Mr. Campbell reported that there is a lot of speeding on Sudbury and Waterbury Lanes. He next reported that the resident at 890 Baldwin Drive cuts grass and trims and blows into the street. Superintendent Brillantino stated that this was addressed yesterday, by issuing a violation to this individual. Next, Mr. Byron asked about a tarp on a house on Northcote Street. Superintendent Brillantino stated that this issue had been addressed,

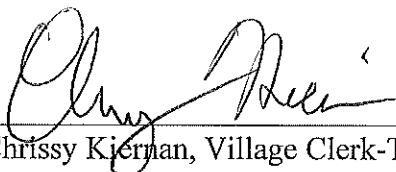
and that the resident will be in court next month. Mr. Campbell stated that a house on School Street and Baldwin Place has two cars with no plates. In addition, he reported that there are trucks parked near 7-Eleven on the sidewalk and double parked, which prevents traffic from flowing. The Mayor stated that code enforcement have responded to this, and that police were asked to address, and that there is a possibility of placing a barrier on the sidewalk to prevent people from parking like this. Mr. Campbell also stated that he has seen employees sleeping cars. Mayor Cavallaro asked that he call the Village Hall contemporaneously if he sees this again so that staff can address the matter. Mr. Campbell also requested better, bigger signage on Cambridge Street to prevent commercial traffic from using that street.

Mr. Chester McGibbon inquired as to what might be coming into the building formerly occupied by CVS. Mayor Cavallaro stated that he did not know.

Mrs. Mobius stated that cement trucks drop large lumps of cement on the roadway. Superintendent Fulgieri stated that we remove them when we see them.

Mr. Campbell stated that there are often garbage trucks from another municipality lined up to Parkway Road and turn up Rockland Street, cutting through the neighborhood to get to the recycling facility. He also inquired about the Nassau County precinct meetings. Mayor Cavallaro stated that he will send information about the meetings.

On a motion by Mayor Cavallaro, duly seconded, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by: 
Chrissy Kiernan, Village Clerk-Treasurer