

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 26, 2012

PRESENT: Mayor O'Connor
Trustee Sellier
Trustee Schwarzfeld
Trustee Annunziata
Manager Pierpont

ABSENT: Trustee Vandenberg

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND FIRE SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor O'Connor led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and notified those in attendance where the fire exits were located.

MINUTES

Mayor O'Connor asked if there were any comments or questions on the March 12, 2012 minutes. There were no comments or questions.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the minutes from March 12, 2012 be and hereby are approved.

REPORTS

The Village Treasurer was asked to give some highlights from the monthly report. All scheduled revenues for the mortgage tax have been received. The revenue is less than anticipated. The sales tax numbers are going to be very close – a few thousand dollars one way or the other. All other areas are on track.

Trustee Annunziata asked how often the Village receives mortgage tax and was told twice a year.

Mayor O'Connor asked the Treasurer if the snow budget was still doing well and was told that appropriation line is the highlight in the budget this year.

The Department of Public Works Superintendent commented on the DPW report. He said that the Village is doing well with recycling. Leaf grinding will begin next week. This is a year's supply of leaves that will be turned into compost.

Mayor O'Connor commented that the pile is impressive.

The pile is from Hurricane s Irene and Lee and the October snowstorm. The Spring Cleanup will be incorporated into this pile.

Trustee Sellier asked a question about the Street Maintenance line in the budget. He said that it looked like eleven thousand dollars was not going to be spent this fiscal year and asked if the funds would roll over into next year. The Treasurer said that was the plan.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the reports be and hereby are accepted.

RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013

Mayor O'Connor said that the Village stayed within the State's mandated two percent tax cap. He said that there were some tough decisions to be made to stay within the cap. Eighty five percent of the Village's budget is personnel costs. Vacant positions in the Police Department and the Department of Public Works were eliminated from the budget. The Mayor also said that the Homestead rate was two point thirty three percent and the Non Homestead tax rate was eleven point fifty five percent. Mayor O'Connor added that the Village is incredibly pleased with the Police Department and said that the Village is able to shift allocations for adequate coverage.

Manager Pierpont said that The Department of Public Works has a little less flexibility and is a little harder to deal with. Not all flexibility can be maintained. He noted that paving and sidewalk replacement have been reduced in the new budget. A portion of the fund balance will also be used. He said that the cost of pension contributions has increased by sixteen percent

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 be and hereby is scheduled for April 9, 2012.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LOW BIDDERS FOR WEIHMAN PARK MAINTENANCE, STREET SWEEPING AND CATCH BASIN CLEANING

Manager Pierpont noted that the low bidders were being recommended for these jobs. They have all worked with the Village before and their work has been satisfactory. Some of the bids were competitive. The results from the bid openings are listed below.

Catch Basin Cleaning

Fred A. Cook, Jr. Inc.	\$10,750.00
National Water Main	\$10,676.25

Street Sweeping

East Coast Industrial	\$2,901.82
Three D Industrial	\$2,695.00

Weihman Park Maintenance

A. Palmieri Co.	\$3,464.00
General Landscaping	\$3,410.00
Mario Bulfamante & Sons	\$4,500.00
Moretti Landscaping	\$4,500.00

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the low bidders for Weihman Park Maintenance, Street Sweeping and Catch Basin Cleaning be and hereby are approved.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE TO START FROM THE ESPLANADE AND BLACK STREET AT 11:30 A.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 28, 2012

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the Memorial Day Parade be and hereby is authorized to start from The Esplanade and Black Street at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, May 28, 2012.

REQUEST FROM THE PELHAM CIVIC ASSOCIATION TO USE SHORE PARK

This request was not on the agenda because it was received after the agenda was completed. It was noted that the Pelham Civics are a reputable organization. They will receive a letter advising them of the Rules and Regulations for Shore Park.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That The Pelham Civic Association be and hereby is granted permission to use Shore Park on Sunday, June 2, 2012 from noon until four o'clock in the afternoon..

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN ABSTRACT OF VOUCHERS NUMBERS 17614-17677

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the Mayor be and hereby is authorized to sign Abstract of Vouchers Numbers 17614-17677.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gianni Magnani, 435 Carol Place, congratulated the Trustees on their election.

Jim Apicella, 587 Manor Lane, mentioned graffiti on a mailbox at Manor Lane and Pelhamdale Avenue and on a big electrical box on The Esplanade. He thought that the Village should have them remove the graffiti.

Ed Davey, 1046 Prospect Avenue, spoke about the condition of the municipal parking lot on Prospect Avenue and Penfield Place. He noted that a number of unregistered and abandoned cars are parked there. He also said that the lot hadn't been paved in many years and said that the lot needs to be cleaned. He thought that the Village should do a better job of maintaining the lot. He also said that landscaping needs to be replaced. He suggested something that stays green longer like Skip Laurel.

Trustee Sellier said that the lot should be maintained.

Trustee Schwarzfeld asked how many staff use the lot and was told that about a third of the lot is used by staff.

Mayor O'Connor said that Spring is a good season for landscaping. He also noted that the garbage can near the lot is not great. He said that a nicer one would be good. The Mayor also said that re paving is purely a budgeting consideration.

Trustee Annunziata questioned whether there was any requirement on who can or can't park in the lot.

Trustee Sellier suggested some permitting process which would give the Village the ability to know who is in the municipal lot.

Jennifer Lapey, 95 Witherbee Avenue, board member and supporter of the Pelham Preservation and Garden Society, spoke about the placement of the new lighting fixtures on the Boston Post Road. She said that they were not in keeping with the historic feel of the surrounding area. She said that they were people who would like to take a hard look at this. She said that the group would like to partner with the Village to combat ugliness. She presented a petition to Mayor O'Connor.

Trustee Sellier asked about the cost associated with the new fixtures.

Mayor O'Connor said that cost is a factor. He said that he did not know what the Village could get from the State. He said that this work is meant to be a safety improvement and the State's concern is not about aesthetics.

Art Scinta, 123 Cliff Place, said that he was a realtor and a member of the Pelham Preservation Society. He said that when selling a community to a prospective homeowner, aesthetics do matter. It is important to the community. He said that the area is the Gateway to Pelham Manor. He said that it was an important intersection. Mr. Scinta presented a schematic for an alternative fixture by Sylvan Associates. It showed a cast iron base, attenuated columns, or decorative pole, with a separate light reminiscent of a gaslight.

Mr. Scinta was asked how much this alternative would cost and said a very ball park figure, which would be a retail price, to replace three poles would be sixty thousand dollars.

Trustee Annuziata asked if the sixty thousand dollar estimate was just for the poles. He asked about the footings and said that the excavation was for the footings for the poles that are there. He said that excavation for these fixtures would probably be another sixty thousand dollars.

Art Scinta said that only bolts might have to be changed not the entire footing.

Trustee Sellier asked if the State had agreed to stop the job.

Manager Pierpont said that the State had two concerns. Newspaper articles in the Journal News last summer about cost over runs on was very much on their mind. The other concern is that no contractor is going to stop a job without compensation. He said that he didn't know how long the State and contractor are willing to stop the work.

Mayor O'Connor said that the Village could not even responsibly consider sixty thousand dollars. He said that the Village is not going to spend sixty thousand dollars or even thirty thousand dollars or whatever number for a great looking light pole. He said that nicer is better, but the Village is not in a position to fund this nicer pole.

Manager Pierpont said that if Assemblywoman Amy Paulin or Senator Jeff Klein is willing to get a meeting with decision makers he would be willing to attend.

Trustee Sellier said that the contractor has an agreement. He commented that if this doesn't happen quickly it not going to happen at all – especially after the Department of Transportation's debacle with huge cost overruns on Route 287 last year.

Jim Apicella, 587 Manor Lane, asked if there was any grant money for this type of project and the Mayor said that he didn't know.

Joe Keane, 2 Bon Mar Road , asked how much notice the Village received about this project and was told that the Manager probably received notice in August. The Manager said that he received a full set of plans in August. Mr. Keane asked if the Village looked for community input and was told no by Manager Pierpont.

Trustee Sellier said that the Manager has offered the most constructive suggestion by offering to meet with the Department of Transportation.

Ray Lutzky said that this was a historic corner and the “Doctor Who” police box has been knocked off its foundation. He said that the foundation has been broken.

n.b.. Upon inspection by the manager it was determined that the old police call box was not knocked off its foundation. A small piece of the booth was damaged and was repaired with concrete.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Clerk

