

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 8, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor Monachino Lapey  
Trustee Bennett  
Trustee Owen-Michaane  
Trustee Case  
Trustee McLaughlin  
Attorney Cornachio  
Manager Luft

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND FIRE SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Monachino Lapey led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and notified those in attendance where the fire safety exits were located.

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OPENING REMARKS

Mayor Monachino Lapey opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

The Mayor spoke about a tremendous storm on Friday, April Thirtieth. She said the Village Manager was here for forty-eight hours straight. The new DPW Foreman, the Police and Fire Chief and their crews were here. She said that it was an intense storm event. There were intense downpours that resulted in regional flooding. She spoke about all catch basins being thoroughly cleaned on an annual basis, the street sweeping program that the Village has in place, completely cleaning and televising the system, mapping and field work done by engineers engaged by the Village and a regional approach and collaboration with Westchester County on the All Hazards program. She said if residents would like to speak with the Village Manager about the storm or flooding issues they can call Village Hall and set up a meeting with the Village Manager.

Trustee Owen-Michaane said that he and Village Manager Luft spoke with the engineers and asked several questions. They are working on the big study and there have been some delays, but a full report will be ready in early June. They did mapping and sent people out to do field work. He spoke about the five basin zones and their locations, that one million dollars has been put into the Capital Fund and that mitigation has been done on Heywood, Highbrook, Esplanade and Reed. He said that we continue to focus on the storm drain system and said that a lot relies on partnership.

The Mayor spoke about Compost Awareness Week and asked the Village Manager to add a little more detail.

Manager Luft said that this is a service that is being provided at no cost. The compost will be available Town-wide this week. She said that this is a public/private partnership that makes compost available to our residents at no cost.

The Mayor said that this week the compost will be available to the entire Town. She thanked resident Tai Montanarella for requesting this service.

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PROCLAMATION FOR EAGLE SCOUT MATTHEW MICHAIOFF

The Mayor pointed out that Matt's last name was spelled incorrectly in the agenda. It is spelled correctly in the proclamation. She said that she was honored to attend Matt's Court of Honor. She mentioned that his brother received the Eagle Scout award and his sister received the Gold

award.

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, Matthew Michailoff has attained the rank of Eagle Scout which is the highest honor in the Boy Scouting program and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Michailoff has been in the Boy Scouts since 2012 and earned the Eagle Scout rank effective February 1, 2023 and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Michailoff has earned twenty- five merit badges, has been a Den Chief, Patrol Leader and Troop Historian where he created a database of Pelham Scout alumni and built a database of historical photos and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Michailoff completed his Eagle Scout Service Project which included presenting a detailed proposal outlining the scope of the project to the Library Board of Trustees, cleaning significant overgrowth in the front of the Library prior to starting his project, designing and building a sustainable sensory garden on the grounds of the Town Library using native plants, and

WHEREAS, Matthew Michailoff worked with the help of his parents and other Scouts to create a garden that provides an area for pollinators and improves and beautifies the grounds of the Library for everyone to enjoy

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pelham Manor hereby recognizes Matthew Michailoff on the occasion of his earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Mayor said that she couldn't be more thankful for his project.

Trustee Bennett congratulated and thanked him.

Trustee Owen-Michaane congratulated him and his parents. He said that it was a lot of hard work.

Trustee Case offered his congratulations to the whole family.

Trustee McLaughlin said that his project helped the Town Library. He said that it was a great project.

All those in attendance congratulated Matt Michailoff.

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**APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH LIBERATORE TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Zoning Board members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Board of Trustess.

The Mayor said the Trustee McLaughlin was serving on the Zoning Board before he was elected. She said that Joseph Liberatore brings a financial background to the Zoning Board. He has worked for Deloitte, CitiCorp and Strategy and Analysis Inc. He has a CPA and MBA. He is a Pelham Manor resident. His spouse, Dr. Marian Russo, is a dermatologist. His children are Grace and Joseph.

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

**RESOLVED**, that Joseph Liberatore be and hereby is appointed to Zoning Board of Appeals.

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MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 24, 2023

The Mayor had two edits to the minutes. In the Opening Remarks, in the second paragraph, Junior should be added after Val Taubner and on page six in Public Comment, Attorney Cornachio said that the oral argument on the Monopole will be coming up within the next few weeks instead of the next few months.

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

RESOLVED, that the minutes from the Regular meeting on April 24, 2023 be and hereby are approved as amended.

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REPORTS

Fire Commissioner Case discussed the monthly report with the Chief Greco.

The Commissioner said that it was a fairly typical month.

Chief Greco said that it was a very busy month. The department was involved in thirteen motor vehicle accidents, ten hazardous conditions, and five fires including a dryer fire. The Chief reminded residents to clean the lint, which can cause fires, from their dryers.

The Chief said that there were seventy-five calls. Forty-nine of those calls were over the last two days of the month. He said that a list was established and the residents were serviced in a timely fashion. He said that one of the highlights of the month was that for the second year the Fire Department was hosting a Masters class for Iona. He noted that firefighter Paul Fumo, who was off duty at the time, helped an individual who had been playing pickleball. The Chief said that we render aid whenever it's needed. The Chief said that there was a drill with the Pelham Fire Department.

Fire Commissioner Case said that was good feedback.

The Mayor said that it bears repeating the Fire Department does pump outs which is a critical piece of support. Colleges coming to our Fire Department for training speaks to competency. She thanked Paul Fumo who is a Pelham High School graduate.

The DPW Superintendent said that DPW collected eight hundred two tons of material. That is two hundred tons over last year. Recycled leaves have been mulched. The department filled potholes, cleaned catch basins on Friday and Saturday before the storm on Sunday, and went back on Monday to clean them again.

The DPW Superintendent spoke with the engineers who are going through the data they've collected. The aerial mapping will give us a solid picture and recommendations on how to increase capacity. The engineers are on track and will be at the June Twelfth meeting.

The Clerk reported that it was a routine month with four business licenses and five letters in lieu of certificates of occupancy.

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

RESOLVED, that the Fire, DPW and Village Clerk reports be and hereby are adopted.

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SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE MS4 ANNUAL REPORT FOR MAY 22, 2023

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) annual report is about systems conveying stormwater. The report focuses on measures to protect the system from pollutants.

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

RESOLVED, that a public hearing on the annual MS4 report be and hereby is scheduled for May 22, 2023 at eight fifteen in the evening.

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#### REQUESTS TO USE SHORE PARK

Ravneeta Consul, 576 Manor Lane, requested the use of Shore Park on Sunday, June 11, 2023 with a rain date of Saturday, June 10, 2023 for a picnic for South Asian-American families. The picnic would be from noon until four o'clock in the afternoon.

Nandita Sinha, 541 Pelhamdale Avenue, requested the use of Shore Park on Sunday, July 9, 2023 with a rain date of Saturday, July 8, 2023. The celebration would be from ten o'clock in the morning until two o'clock in the afternoon.

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

RESOLVED, that the requests from Ravneeta Consul and Nandita Sinha to use Shore Park be and hereby are approved.

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#### STREET CLOSING REQUEST

Allison Douglass, 1057 Esplanade, presented a petition on behalf of the Pelham Preservation & Garden Society that Monterey Avenue between Pelhamdale Avenue and Highbrook Avenue be closed on Saturday, June 3, 2023 from seven o'clock in the evening until ten o'clock in the evening. It is for an event at the home of Jennifer and Trabue Bland at 603 Monterey Avenue.

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

RESOLVED, that the request from Allison Douglass to close Monterey Avenue on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from seven o'clock in the evening until ten o'clock in the evening be and hereby is approved.

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#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN ABSTRACT OF VOUCHERS NUMBERS 31207-31235

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

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized to sign Vouchers Numbers 31207-31235.

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#### PUBLIC COMMENT

The Mayor asked if there were any comments from the public.

Gianni Magnani, 435 Carol Place, asked if it was possible to see the sewers being cleaned and televised and was told that is a work product. The system is cleaned and the camera follows it.

Alexy Scholl, 1076 Grant Avenue, spoke about flooding and asked about the engineers' report, the models being prepared, Pelham Bay Park being cleaned and how to increase capacity

The Mayor said that the Village has added some catch basins as one form of interim mitigation. She said that residents can subscribe to e-blasts and Nixle for updates and go to the Village's Facebook page for additional information. She said the Village has talked to New Rochelle,

Amtrak, and Pelham Bay and is very committed to this.

Alexy Scholl said that she was in favor of them continuing to work with these groups.

Roger Mora, 39 Edgemere Street, spoke about an executive summary for the engineers' report.

Mariss Medina-Mora, 39 Edgemere Street, spoke about water mitigation and planting a number of plants to absorb water in conjunction with getting a building permit.

The Mayor spoke about hardscape and gave the example of the City of New Rochelle and water that runs downhill to the Pelham Country Club and then keeps going. She also said that the Village participated in NYPA's program of buying one tree and getting one free.

Trustee Owen-Michaane spoke about lot coverage and that the ground is counted as part of lot coverage.

Alice Gesky, 12 Edgemere Street, spoke about water pooling in everyone's yard and suggested that broken fences might be a contributing factor.

The Village Manager asked her to call the office and speak with her.

Benjamin Argyle, 440 Pelhamdale Avenue, would like the engineers to be present at the public comment period for the June 12, 2023 board meeting, and to see the report on the website.

Manager Luft spoke about data and aerial mapping. She said that the camera work and aerial work and mapping equal the product.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

RESOLVED, that the Board be and hereby is authorized to enter executive session to discuss the following:

Pending Litigation

No action was taken in executive session.

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ADJOURNMENT

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

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Clerk