

Minutes of the Public Hearing of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsville held in the Williamsville Village Hall, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, New York on Monday, January 12, 1998 at 8:51 P.M.

Present: Basil J. Piazza, Mayor
Joseph Frese - Trustees
Richard Langenfeld
Barbara Schofield
William A. Wutz

Patrick Kelly, Attorney
Theresa L. Cummins, Admin./Clerk-Treas.
Sally A. Kuzon, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
John Anstett - Working Crew Chief-D.P.W.

The Village Administrator read the Notice of Public Hearing being held for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in discussing a proposed local law which would Amend Section 97-4 of the Village Taxation Code re: Veterans Exemptions.

ON MOTION by Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to open the public hearing at 8:51 P.M.

Unanimously carried.

Mayor Piazza stated that the proposed change to our code would ensure that Veterans keep the same exemption amount that they currently have on their property. If we don't pass the local law, the Veterans will receive a lesser exemption. This is due to a recent State law.

Larry Hillebrand, 143 Cadman, stated the Veterans are in favor of the revision.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, the public hearing was closed at 8:53 P.M.

Unanimously carried.

Theresa L. Cummins
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Village of
Williamsville held in the Williamsville Village Hall, 5565 Main
Street, Williamsville, New York on January 12, 1998 at 7:32 P.M.

Present: Basil Piazza, Mayor
Joseph Frese - Trustees
Richard Langenfeld
Barbara Schofield
William Wutz

Theresa L. Cummins-Admin./Vllg. Clerk-Treas.
Sally A. Kuzon, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Patrick Kelly, Village Attorney
John Anstett - Crew Chief - D.P.W.

Mayor Piazza opened the meeting at 7:32 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on December 15, 1997.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to suspend rules at 7:34 P.M. to hold a public hearing for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in discussing the proposed Master Plan. (The public hearing was closed at 8:50 P.M.)

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to suspend rules at 8:51 P.M. to hold a public hearing for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in discussing a proposed local law which would Amend Section 97-4 of the Village Taxation Code re: Veterans Exemptions. (The public hearing was closed at 8:53 P.M.)

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to suspend rules for public participation.

Unanimously carried.

Nelson Torre, 109 N. Ellicott asked that the Village Board support the Amherst Town Board in their desire to acquire the Sisters Property.

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ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Schofield, it was
 moved to return to the regular agenda.

Unanimously carried.

Mayor Piazza reported on the following items:

- 1) The recent flood we had last week - He thanked the DPW and the
 Williamsville Fire Department for their reaction during this time.
- 2) Work on the Master Plan - He thanked Dave Sutton, Building
 Inspector and Attorney Kelly for all the work they have done on the
 Master Plan.
- 3) Union negotiations are continuing. These will be discussed
 later during Executive Session.
- 4) As a member of the Town of Amherst Deregulation Committee, he
 will be attending a meeting tomorrow on deregulation. We are
 hoping we can move fairly soon on Natural gas purchasing, at least
 right now on Village owned property. We would later extend it on
 behalf of all Village residents.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, the following
 resolution was adopted:

Vouchers in the amount of \$152,285.06 covering the period from
 December 12, 1997 - December 31, 1997 were approved as follows:

Payroll fund w/e	12/20/97	\$ 28,188.35
General Fund		24,011.65
Water Fund		728.06
Sewer Fund		2,287.42
Glen Park		14,098.72
Debt Service		37,270.01
Trust & Agency Fund		17,213.13
Community Development		-0-
Capital		28,487.72
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	Grand Total	\$152,285.06
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Large Vouchers:

O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc.	28,487.72
Chase Manhattan Bank	21,350.00

Unanimously carried.

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ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Wutz, the following
resolution was adopted:

Vouchers in the amount of \$138,628.71 covering the period from
January 1, 1998 - January 9, 1998 were approved as follows:

Payroll fund w/e	1/07/98	\$ 22,032.58
General Fund		20,566.11
Water Fund		29,019.36
Trust & Agency Fund		11,167.52
Capital		55,843.14
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Grand Total		\$138,628.71
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Large Vouchers:

Nichols, Long & Moore	55,843.14
Erie County Water Authority	29,019.36

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Wutz, the following
resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, the Niagara Mohawk Power Choice proposal may not be
in the best interests of the residents of the Village of
Williamsville and,

WHEREAS, the City of Buffalo Motion to Intervene in the
Proceeding on Motion of the Public Service Commission as to
the rates, charges, rules and regulations of Niagara Mohawk
Power Corporation for electric and gas service may favorably
impact on future actions by the Village of Williamsville Board
of Trustees and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees
desires to have maximum flexibility in its reactions to
deregulation for gas and electricity in order to benefit
Village residents and businesses,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of
Williamsville Board gives its full support to the City of
Buffalo Motion to Intervene.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Trustee Wutz, seconded by Trustee Schofield, the
following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED that the Village Administrator publish notice of
public hearing to be held by the Board of Trustees of the
Village of Williamsville on Monday, January 26, 1998 at 7:30
P.M. for the purpose of discussing a proposed water rate
increase.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved
to suspend rules to consider a resolution which was not on the
agenda.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Trustee Wutz, seconded by Trustee Frese, the following
resolution was adopted:

The Mayor is hereby directed to give American Ref-fuel a letter
containing a 5 year notice to end the contract between the Village
and American Ref-fuel for garbage disposal.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved
to return to the regular agenda.

Unanimously carried.

Trustee Frese reported that last month he wrote a letter to the NY
State DOT regarding the speed limit and the timing of the traffic
lights on Main Street, expressing his dissatisfaction that there
was not enough time for walkers to cross Main Street. He has
received a letter from them stating that they will do a study and
get back to him.

Trustee Frese also commented on a statement made by Dan Ward in
Sunday's paper that "Williamsville receives a disproportionate
amount of time and money from the Town while Eggertsville, where he
lives and other neighborhoods get nothing but the tax bill".

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Trustee Frese reminded Mr. Ward that Williamsville gets nothing from Amherst unless we pay for it but we do work well with the Town and for a politician to say something like this is uncalled for.

ON MOTION By Trustee Frese, seconded by Trustee Schofield, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED that the Village Administrator publish notice of public hearing to be held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsville at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, February 9, 1998 for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in discussing changes to Section 112, the Village Zoning Code.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Schofield, it was moved to suspend rules for a resolution which did not appear on the agenda.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Schofield, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED that the Village Administrator publish notice of public hearing to be held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsville on Monday, January 26, 1998 at 7:35 P.M. for the purpose of discussing the proposed Master Plan.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Wutz, it was moved to return to the regular agenda.

Unanimously carried.

Trustee Langenfeld had no report and no resolutions.

Trustee Schofield thanked Attorney Kelly for all his hard work on the Master Plan as well as the public who attended to give their comments. She announced that the annual Winterfest will be held on February 8th at Glen Park. Also that Tom Lucia and Linda Pacer have been recommended to the Amherst Youth Board for their outstanding contributions to the Youth Community.

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Administrator Cummins reported that Barb Marino, our Utility Billing Clerk will be moving to Connecticut so we will be looking for a new employee. She thanked Barb for her years of service and wished her well.

John Anstett, Department of Public Works, thanked the Town of Amherst Highway Department for the sandbags they provided during the recent flooding as well as the Fire Department for removing the log from the creek near the Castle.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved at 9:15 P.M. to go to Executive Session to discuss negotiations regarding the union contract.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to return to the regular agenda at 9:55 P.M.

Unanimously carried.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Wutz, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 P.M.

Unanimously carried.

Theresa L. Cummins
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

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The Village Administrator read the Notice of Public Hearing being held for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in discussing the proposed Master Plan for the Village of Williamsville.

ON MOTION by Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to open the public hearing at 7:34 P.M.

Unanimously carried.

Attorney Kelly stated that this is the second of three public hearings to be held on the Master Plan. It is the last opportunity for the residents to have input. We currently have a draft prepared which will be finalized and available for public inspection by next Monday. The public can then review it and make any comment at the next meeting, which will be the last public hearing.

Attorney Kelly discussed the commercial uses along Main Street and stated that basically, except for a small manufacturing area, the balance of the Village is residential. We are almost 100% developed and there is no plan to make any changes. He discussed the Reconnaissance Survey which was completed in June 1997 as well as the adoption of the Historic Preservation Code.

One of the goals of the Master Plan will be to maintain the residential buildings through increased enforcement by the Building Department so the historic houses will not deteriorate to the point that they will not be of any value to the Village as a whole. Another goal is to do what we can with our Building Codes to keep the commercial properties the jewels they can be.

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Under the new Historic Preservation Code, the Village will be requesting several areas be put into Historic Districts. These building's facades will not be able to be changed without going in front of a commission. That way the historic integrity of these buildings will be maintained.

The reconstruction of Main Street has also forced us to look at our housing stock and our transportation needs. We have focused on traffic issues and how they are affecting the Village. Although we have lost population in the last decades, the population in the area around us has increased putting pressure on our community. Moving the thruway toll booths to the east of us would be one way to alleviate the traffic congestion and the Board will be pushing to have these moved.

Attorney Kelly described the areas in the Village as he did the previous public hearing. He discussed regulating adult recreation areas into the Manufacturing districts and keeping these activities off Main Street. The Master Plan limits the construction of any more high rises by limiting buildings to 30' in height. When there is a reuse of property, buildings will have to be constructed close to the street with parking behind the buildings. We will also be looking at combining parking behind several businesses to increase parking available. Each building along the way would have to have sufficient individual parking as required by code but would get better parking if they joined with others.

Attorney Kelly emphasized that a Master Plan is a dream for the future. It is what you want your community to look like in the next 10-20-30 years. He has entitled our plan - "Master Plan 2000 - A Vision for the 21st Century" As such, it does not describe specific circumstances nor what can or cannot be done with a particular property but it can guide us in maintaining the small offices, small specialty shops and smaller restaurants that we now have along Main Street.

Mary Lowther, 120 N. Ellicott Street, stated she would like to review the document before final adoption. She thanked the Village Board for the work they have done so far. She asked for clarification as to how a high rise is defined as well as the term "story". She likes the idea of joint easements for adjoining commercial property in order to increase parking. She wondered if there was any way to limit square footage in new commercial buildings. Attorney Kelly stated the only way to do that is through parking requirements. If a business does not have adequate parking, they cannot construct their building.

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Ms. Lowther also discussed on-street parking in front of residential homes and suggested the possibility of working out agreements with various churches who don't use their parking lots during the week to alleviate some of the parking problems.

Larry Hillebrand, 143 Cadman Drive, commended the Board and Attorney Kelly for their work on this Master Plan. He is also concerned about minimizing the number of high-rises in the Village. However, his concerns are primarily residential. He asked if the Master Plan addresses absentee landlords and if it doesn't, should it? He is concerned about the R-3M areas and whether they will be maintained in the future. He also questioned whether the Master Plan addresses the color of buildings. He cited the bright blue building on Main Street. He asked about fences in the front yards and also if there is any particular kind of tree that we will encourage in the Village right-of-way.

John Cansdale, 50 Los Robles, asked how the Village will address parking behind the buildings if they are moved to the front of the property closer to the streets. He was told it would be addressed with landscaping and buffer zones between the commercial and residential areas.

Gartley Weller, 129 Mill Street, spoke about the parking at the Village Meeting House. He stated that often when there is an event, there is no parking available for groups who have rented the Meeting House. He wishes the Board would look into this and enforce it.

ON MOTION By Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Wutz, it was moved to close the public hearing at 8:50 P.M.

Unanimously carried.

Theresa L. Cummins
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer