

**Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held in Williamsville Village Hall, 5565 Man Street, Williamsville, New York, on Monday, March 24, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.**

The meeting was opened at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Trustee Geary.

Present: Mary E. Lowther, Mayor  
Brian J. Geary, Trustee  
Jeffrey L. Kingsley, Trustee  
Brian J. Kulpa, Trustee  
Basil J. Piazza, Trustee

Christopher A. Cardillo, Village Attorney  
Lynda L. Juul, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer  
Judith A. Kindron, Deputy Treasurer  
Marc Shuttleworth, DPW Crew Chief

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Lowther, seconded by Trustee Kulpa, it was moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 10, 2008.

Unanimously carried.

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Lowther, seconded by Trustee Kingsley, it was moved to open the public participation portion of the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

Members of the audience who addressed the Board and their topics:

*Shelly Shratz, Amherst Town Board member* – Supports cooperation between Village and Town for shared municipal grants; Sponsoring a resolution for Shared Municipal Grant to create a task force to see what Village and Town can share; Town purchase of Village Hall building.

*Thomas Frank, 225C Evans St.* – Ellicott Creek clean up; Weekly bike ride from Farmers' Market; Re-licensing settlement for school districts; Niagara Greenway meeting; UB's 2020 Plan; Village's Community Plan; Town's Community Plan; Integration of Greenway/GBNRTC Plan; Funding for the Mill; Removal of Williamsville toll booths.

*Bea Slick, 130 Hirschfield Dr.* – Downsizing of Village Board would increase workload of fewer Board members and increase likely hood of burnout of officials; Present number

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of Board members brings diversity to the Board; With three members, if one member was absent, only 2 would be left to vote.

*Lisa Fessard, 54 Cadman Dr.* – Opposed downsizing Board: Many events would disappear for lack of manpower to maintain them; Financial gain would be minimal.

*Vic Paquet, 43 Howard Ave.* – Opposed downsizing Board; Downsizing would cause a distraction to the adoption of the Community Plan; Downsizing would affect the quality of service; Urged Board to schedule a public hearing for the Community Plan.

*Sean Michel, 54 Garden Parkway* – Asked for clarification on what a public referendum entails.

*Josh Kormin, Williamsville Business Association* - Thanked the Board for the sidewalk plow policy.

*Richard Sweeney, 325 Mill Street* – Baffled at consideration of referendum without public petition; Downsizing would increase work for fewer Board members; Downsizing would cause remaining Board members to seek higher compensation due to increased workload.

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Lowther, seconded by Trustee Geary, it was moved to close the public participation portion of the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

**Report – Mayor Lowther**

*Mayor Lowther reported on the following topics: The 2008-2009 budget is 90% complete; Board is looking at zero percent increase; Public hearings for the budget will be held at the next Village Board meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>; Water rates will increase but amount is not known as of yet; Thanked DPW for clarifying sidewalk snow clearing policy; Thanked the Youth & Recreation Committee for a fine job on the Egg Hunt.*



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To:	001-1411-4450 (Records Management-Misc.)	\$89.00
From:	001-1411-4010 (Records Management-Office Supplies)	\$89.00
To:	001-5010-4111 (Street Administration-Internet Access)	\$4.00
From:	001-5010-4040 (Street Administration-Edu. Exp./Travel)	\$4.00
To:	001-1640-2000 (Central Garage-Equip.)	\$163.00
From:	001-1640-4440 (Central Garage-Parts)	\$163.00

Unanimously carried.

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Lowther, seconded by Trustee Geary, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLVED**, that the following *budget amendment* is hereby made in the **General Fund** for the **2007 – 2008** fiscal year to account for revenue received from the Town of Amherst for fire protection services.

Increase:	001-0001-2262 (Fire Protection Service)	\$3828.00
Increase:	001-3410-4220 (Fire Protection-Share of Fire District)	\$3828.00

Unanimously carried.

- ***Mayor Lowther tabled her resolution supporting the New York State Property Taxpayers Protection Act until the next meeting.***

**Report – Trustee Piazza**

*Trustee Piazza reported on the following topics: AUC savings of \$37,000 on natural gas; Williamsville School Superintendent's Community Council and budget; Sanitary Sewer Consolidation Steering Committee; Earth/Arbor Day is April 26<sup>th</sup>; Tree seedlings will be given away that day; "Green Series" at the Meeting House will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>.*

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**ON MOTION** by Trustee Piazza, seconded by Trustee Kulpa, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLVED**, that Louis Friedly and Patrick Sweeney, employees of the Village of Williamsville DPW, are hereby authorized to attend Vacuum Sweeper School in Henrietta, New York, on March 26, 2008, at a cost not to exceed \$60.00, to be paid by the Village of Williamsville.

Unanimously carried.

**Report – Trustee Kulpa**

*Trustee Kulpa reported on the following topics: Glen Park Joint Board meets April 1<sup>st</sup>; Traffic & Safety Committee meets April 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss on-street parking; Meeting House design specs are being reviewed by the Building Dept and Village Attorney.*

Trustee Kulpa had no resolutions.

**Report – Trustee Kingsley**

*Trustee Kingsley reported on the following topics: The success of the Youth & Recreation Committee sponsored Egg Hunt; Thanked Vic Paquet, Jim Lion and Mayor for their help on the Egg Hunt; Mill Restoration Committee meets March 27<sup>th</sup>; Zoning Board will not meet in April; Seeking partnership with Amherst IDA meeting to help the Village solicit funds.*

Trustee Kingsley brought forth the following motion:

**WHEREAS**, Village of Williamsville on January 28, 2008 heard a presentation with documentation stating that Erie County has too many elected officials; and

**WHEREAS**, in that presentation on January 28, 2008, a request was made that the Village of Williamsville consider reducing the size of its Village Board from five members to three members; and

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**WHEREAS**, the issue of the size of the Village of Williamsville government should be left in the hands of the Village of Williamsville residents and not be left in the hands of the Village Board;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village Board hereby authorizes that the issue of reducing the size of the Village Board from five members to three members shall be considered by the residents of the Village of Williamsville via public referendum as soon as practically possible but no later than the June 2009 Village election.

*There being no second, the resolution failed.*

**Report – Trustee Geary**

*Trustee Geary reported on the following topics: Thanked Rich Sweeney, Nick Roth and Al Hershberger for helping with tree locations; Thanked Rich Sweeney for volunteering to be regional coordinator for Re-Tree WNY; Planning Board meets April 7<sup>th</sup>; Tree Board meets April 8<sup>th</sup>; Beautification Committee meets April 8<sup>th</sup>; Tree planting May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>; Thanked Heritage Tree Center for donation of 20' tall tree for Garrison Park; Arbor Day celebration will be held April 26<sup>th</sup>; Beautification Committee Garden Prep Day is April 26<sup>th</sup>.*

**ON MOTION** by Trustee Geary, seconded by Trustee Kulpa, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLVED**, that Chris Petrie and Tim Petrie of the Williamsville Fire Department are hereby authorized to attend Trench Operations Training in York, Pennsylvania, April 18-20, 2008, at a cost not to exceed \$658.00, to be paid by the Village of Williamsville.

Unanimously carried.

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**ON MOTION** by Mayor Lowther, seconded by Trustee Geary, it was moved to open the Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 8:40 p.m.

Unanimously carried.

**ON MOTION** by Trustee Piazza, seconded by Trustee Kingsley, it was moved to close the Executive Session at 9:03 p.m.

Unanimously carried.

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Lowther, seconded by Trustee Geary, it was moved to return to the regular meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Unanimously carried.

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Lowther, seconded by Trustee Kingsley, it was moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Unanimously carried.

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Lynda L. Juul  
Village Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer