

**Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village of Williamsville Board of Trustees held at Village of Williamsville, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY on Monday, March 25, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.**

The Village Board meeting was opened at 7:33 pm by Mayor Hunt.

Administrator Canell led the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:33m.

Present: Christine L. Hunt, Mayor  
Daniel O. DeLano, Deputy Mayor  
Eileen Torre, Trustee  
Jeffrey Hahn, Trustee

Also present: Suzanne Canell, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer  
Kristine Voight, Deputy Treasurer  
Charles Grieco, Village Attorney

Absent: James Celeste, Trustee  
Ben Vilonen, DPW Crew Chief

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, it was moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 11, 2024.

Unanimously carried

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, it was moved at 7:35 pm to open the public participation portion of the meeting.

Unanimously carried

Member(s) of the audience who addressed the Board and their comment(s) [*Board of Trustees' comments are in italics*]:

- 1.) **Doug Richardson – Village Resident:** Has a friend who lives on Cayuga whose sewer was backing up. They had a plumber there. It was the main line. Tried to call Village but no one there and no number is provided. Called the Town of Amherst and there was no number to call. Who do we call if something goes wrong in the middle of the night? Is there a 24-hour emergency line? [*Deputy Mayor Delano: Should call the Amherst Police. The 689-1311 number would be best. They will notify our DPW Chief on their personal phone.*] Mr. Richardson asked if they can let the public know they can call the Police for something like that. Most might not know they can. The Town of Amherst does have 24-hour coverage. Suggested the Town have the Village contact number.

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- 2.) **Charlie Ciotta – 5411 Main Street:** Wanted to speak in favor of the discussion on increasing the penalties and changing some of the codes of the Village. Mr. Ciotta stated he has been waiting for adjudication of code violations on a local business matter and there should be fines like they have in the City of Buffalo. Bigger fines would give credence to the Historic Preservation Commission who vote on these issues and work to beautify the Village. Small fines that are easy to pay allows offenders to scoff at the law. It should be changed legally to give the Board more power. *[Attorney Greico asked about the status of the issue with the neighboring business awning issue.]* Mr. Ciotta gave a summary of the dismissal of the case due to the wording of the original referral. Has submitted a FOIL request. This could be used as an example of why greater fines and stiffer enforcement is necessary. On another note, Mr. Ciotta stated there should be a reviewed list of snow removal and landscape contractors throughout the Village. Something where Village residents can review their ratings. Should have a BBB rating of B or better. Has been scammed by local operator and is suing him. *[Mayor suggested filing a complaint with the Town using the complaint portal.]*
- 3.) **Jim Nau – Resident and Managing Partner of Rationales** –Thanked the Board for coming to an agreement on Music on Main for Thursdays. Wanted to inquire about whether there could be a blanket permit for the weekends. *[Mayor Hunt – We did discuss at our work session and will bring it up again at a future Board session. Deputy Mayor DeLano – Discussed setting the date parameters as to what the ‘season’ is and when it ends. i.e, Memorial Day? Explained the permit process after the Board establishes season rates.]* Mr. Nau commented on speed of getting permits set up and stated Mother’s Day would be good example. Would want amplified music for an acoustic guitarist.
- 4.) **Tricia Browne – Owner of Eagle House:** Also wanted to thank the Board for working with Eddie Tyce on behalf of WBA. Also wanted to address if we could have music on nights other than Music on Main. Feels they are getting a little nickel and dimed to death over the fees. Was thinking more of a prorated fee versus a blanket because one business may have seven nights of music in a season where her business may have only three nights. *[Dan DeLano – Maybe we could set a maximum per season but have a lower level pass for fewer events?]* Ms Browne suggested maybe a five-night threshold. If more than five nights of music, get seasonal permit. If less, then get prorated amount. Glad it’s up for discussion and open dialogue continues.
- 5.) **Thomas Frank – Village Resident:** Spoke about the Amherst Central Park Greenway and the interconnection to the Dam and the Niagara River Greenway. Discussed the Village Connection to the Canal Side in 2015 which is in the Village Community Plan. Calling for a joint resolution to amend the July 11, 1977, Glen Park Joint Board Agreement for the Ownership, Finance, Improvement, and Maintenance of Glen Park. Has to do with the Niagara River Greenway conversion to electricity; allocating \$450 million to Erie and Niagara County. There is going to be a statewide Greenway System and Advocacy Summit in Albany on May 20, 2024.

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**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, it was moved at 7:56 pm to close the public participation.

Unanimously carried

## **Public Hearing**

*Proposed local law amending Chapter 15 of the Village Code to increase the maximum penalties for non-compliance with said chapter.*

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, it was moved at 7:56 p.m. to open the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Unanimously carried

*Mr. Ciotta noted he made comments in support of amending the law earlier during the public participation portion of the meeting.*

*No other comments.*

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, it was moved at 7:59 p.m. to close this public hearing.

Unanimously carried

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, it was moved at 7:59 p.m. to go off agenda to vote on proposed local law amendment:

Unanimously carried

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, the following resolution was adopted:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that Local Law 2 of 2024 is hereby adopted.

Unanimously carried

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Torre, it was moved at 8:05 p.m. to go back to the regular agenda.

Unanimously carried

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**Report – Mayor Hunt**

*Had the honor of being Keynote Speaker for the National Honor Society for Williamsville Schools. Inducted 70 new members. Events like these are one of the things that makes being the Mayor a really pleasurable job.*

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Torre, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLVED**, that the following ***budget transfers*** are hereby made in the ***General Fund*** for the ***2023-2024*** fiscal year:

To:	001-1410-4030-0000 (Village Clerk/Printing Advertising) .....	\$60.00
	001-1410-4050 (Village Clerk/Tax Roll Preparation).....	\$8.00
From:	001-1410-4050-0000 (Village Clerk/Computer Software).....	\$68.00
To:	001-3410-4110 (Fire Protection/Service Contract) .....	\$640.00
From:	001-3410-2070 (Fire Protection/Office Equipment) .....	\$320.00
	001-3410-4010 (Fire Protection/Office Supplies) .....	\$320.00
To:	001-1110-4010 (Village Justice/Office Supplies) .....	\$136.00
From:	001-1110-2000 (Village Justice/Equipment).....	\$136.00
To:	001-5110-4161-0901 (Street Maintenance/Repairs 2018 Chevy Tahoe).....	\$37.00
	001-5110-4161-0904 (Street Maintenance/Repairs 2005 Freightliner).....	\$138.00
	001-5110-4161-0914 (Street Maintenance/Repairs 2017 Willie Sidewalk Plow) .....	\$28.00
	001-5110-4161-0919 (Street Maintenance/Repairs 2021 Chevy Pickup) .....	\$9.00
	001-5110-4161-0926 (Street Maintenance/Repairs 2012 Chevy Tahoe) .....	\$24.00
From:	001-5110-4161 (Street Maintenance/Repairs Equipment) .....	\$236.00
To:	001-7110-2020 (Parks/Park Equipment) .....	\$693.00
From:	001-7110-2000 (Parks/Equipment).....	\$693.00
To:	001-7310-4171 (Youth Programs/Halloween Scavenger Hunt).....	\$1.00
	001-7310-4179 (Youth Programs/Movies at Meeting House) .....	\$1.00
From:	001-7310-4175 (Youth Programs/Movies in the Park) .....	\$2.00
To:	001-7530-4440 (Historical Property/Fire Alarm).....	\$70.00
From:	001-7530-4240 (Historical Property/Tune Piano) .....	\$70.00
To:	001-8140-1000 (Storm Sewers/Personal Services) .....	\$4688.00
	001-8140-2010 (Storm Sewers/Capital Improvements) .....	\$4688.00

Unanimously carried

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, the following resolution was adopted:

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**RESOLVED**, that payroll and vouchers in the amount of **\$132,669.84** covering the period from **02/13/24 – 03/22/24** are hereby approved as follows:

<b>PAYROLL COVERING 02/13/2024 - 03/22/2024</b>	<b>\$ 85,186.79</b>
<b>VOUCHERS COVERING 03/15/2024 - 03/22/2024</b>	
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$ 37,887.77</b>
<b>SEWER FUND</b>	<b>\$ 5,250.61</b>
<b>GLEN PARK FUND</b>	<b>\$ 203.60</b>
<b>TRUST &amp; AGENCY FUND</b>	<b>\$ 2,071.07</b>
<b>SEWER CONSOLIDATION</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,070.00</u></b>
	<b>\$ 47,483.05</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 132,669.84</b>

Unanimously carried

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded as amended by Deputy Mayor DeLano, the following resolution was adopted:

**WHEREAS**, the Request for Cost Proposal (RFQ) for the Ellicott Creek Williamsville Flood Mitigation project was sent to three (3) firms by Village Engineer;

**WHEREAS**, one (1) response to the RFQ were received for the project and subsequent cost proposal was requested from Gomez and Sullivan Engineers;

**WHEREAS**, the cost estimate submitted by Gomez and Sullivan Engineers is \$78,900, which represents a \$6,100 increase in estimate previously submitted in 2022 which assumed the project would be performed in 2023;

**WHEREAS**, the Village was awarded a planning grant in 2023 from FEMA for the Ellicott Creek Flood Mitigation project in the amount of \$70,200 with a 90/10 cost share percentage;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ellicott Creek Williamsville Flood Mitigation Service contract is hereby awarded to Gomez and Sullivan Engineers, D.P.C., 8375 Seneca Turnpike, New Hartford, NY, for their bid amount of \$78,900;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, subject to the review and approval of the Village Attorney, that the Mayor is authorized to approve the Agreement for Professional Services in the amount of \$78,900;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Village of Williamsville will appropriate \$6,100 for the increase in cost estimate to be paid from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Unanimously carried

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**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Trustee Torre, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Williamsville Fire Department is hereby authorized to have Michael Vogel, Christopher Petrie, and James Maddigan, travel to and attend the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis, IN, from April 16, 2024 through April 19, 2024, at an estimated cost of \$2,830.50 for lodging and meals, to be paid from Education Expense/Travel budget appropriation line.

Unanimously carried

**Report – Deputy Mayor DeLano**

*Attended Tree City USA Award Luncheon with Ben Vilonen, DPW Crew Chief. This is our 18<sup>th</sup> Year. Nice to be in the room with other ‘tree people’ and it is always educational. There will be signs going up on Main St. One near Union and one near South High School. We should feel proud of this accomplishment. Due to a lot of hard work by the Tree Board, this Village Board, and previous administrations.*

**ON MOTION** by Deputy Mayor DeLano, seconded by Mayor Hunt, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Village Administrator is hereby authorized to publish an Advertisement for Bids for Contract No. 842, Pedestrian Crosswalk, South Cayuga Road. Bids for the construction of the Project are to be received at the office of the Village Clerk until Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. local time.

Unanimously carried

**Report – Trustee Torre**

*We are 2 weeks away from Solar Eclipse. In fact, the next Village Board meeting is postponed by one day to April 9<sup>th</sup> due to the Eclipse. Reminder there will be a ‘Don’t be Left in the Dark’ lecture at the Meeting House with free admission at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 30. First speaker is Tim Collins (“Mr. Galaxy”) who is a research associate in astronomy at the Buffalo Museum of Science and a member of the Buffalo Astronomical Society. Second speaker will be Mr. John Szelazny, Member of Sierra club Niagara Executive Committee, whose presentation is entitled ‘WNY in the National Spotlight by Going Dark’. Residents should try and attend to keep informed on what is happening. Trustee Torre read the Town of Amherst press release regarding safety guidelines for the Solar Eclipse.*

**ON MOTION** by Trustee Torre, seconded as amended by Deputy Mayor DeLano, the following resolution was adopted:

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**RESOLVED**, that the Village Administrator is hereby authorized to sign a land permission letter to be sent to the William G. Pomeroy Foundation in support of a grant application for a National Register historical marker to be placed on the property of the Lehigh Valley Section House at 150 Milton Street, subject to Historical Preservation Commission issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness for said marker during its meeting to be held on March 26, 2024.

**Report – Trustee Hahn**

No Reports or Resolutions

**Report – Trustee Celeste**

Absent

**Staff Reports:**

*Attorney Grieco: No report*

*Administrator Canell: No report*

*Deputy Treasurer Voight: No report*

*DPW Crew Chief: Absent*

**ON MOTION** by Mayor Hunt, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeLano, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Unanimously carried

The next Village Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at Village Hall, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, NY.

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Suzanne Canell  
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer