



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

**October 18, 2023, at 7:00 PM**

**432 Route 306, Wesley Hills, NY 10952**

**Phone: 845-354-0400 | Fax: 845-354-4097**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marshall Katz, Mayor  
Milton Schwartz, Trustee  
Yisroel Cherns, Trustee

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ed McPherson, Deputy Mayor  
Ruth Ivey, Trustee

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Ben Selig, Village Attorney  
Camille Guido - Downey, Village Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor Katz opened the meeting at 7 pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Item #1-Presentation from Creighton & Manning - Willow Tree Road Sidewalk Project**

Tony Christian, PE, Project Manager, Creighton Manning was present via Zoom and presented to the Board of Trustees the Willow Tree Sidewalk project. This is a federal funded project for sidewalks on the north side of Willow Tree Road. The total project cost is \$2.4 million with an 80% federal and 20% Village cost. There are several trees, stone walls, drainage structures, and two culverts that will need to be relocated to accommodate the sidewalks. Mr. Christian stated that at the request of the Village they will consider whether the stones from the existing retaining walls can be repurposed and reused as part of the new walls to retain the existing character.

Mayor Katz questioned when will the meeting with the public be scheduled?

Mr. Christian answered in November, and he will ensure that each resident on the roadway gets personal letter.

Mayor Katz noted that he will advise all residents of the public meeting via the Village's website and email list and will send postal mail to the residents of Willow Tree Road between Wilder and 306.

Board Members look forward to the public presentation and getting the project started.

**Item #2**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Resolution #124-23**

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2023, seconded by Trustee Schwartz. Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion carried unanimously.

**Item #3**

**Appointment of Second Alternate Member to the Zoning Board of Appeals – balance of a one- year term.**

Mayor Katz appoints Anita Hajioff as 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a balance of a one-year term.

**Item #4**

**Resolution #125-23**

**Resolution Referring to the Planning Board and Other Agencies the Proposed Zoning Law Amendment Regarding Sign Permits**

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Schwartz:

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Board of the Village of Wesley Hills has noticed a conflict in the Zoning Law of the Village of Wesley Hills for the treatment of sign permits, and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Attorney, at the request of this Board, has prepared such a proposed local law entitled, “Amending the Code of the Village of Wesley Hills to Revise the Zoning Law in Relation to the Regulation of Sign Permits”,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that it is hereby determined that the revision of such law will not have a significant effect on the environment as defined in the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act for the reason that such proposed local law eliminates any ambiguity with respect to the treatment of sign permits in the Village of Wesley Hills, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 230-76 of the Wesley Hills Code, such proposed local law is hereby referred for review and report to the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Village Attorney, Village Engineer, Building Inspector, and Code Inspector of the Village of Wesley Hills, and pursuant to the GML of the County of Rockland Planning Department and all abutting municipalities,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Village Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of such proposed local law to such Boards and Officials forthwith.

**Discussion:**

Mayor Katz stated that there were two applications that were referred to the Planning Board for exterior façade signs. Frank Brown discovered a conflict in the Village’s code as permission for exterior façade signs in the shopping district receive permission from the Building Department. The proposed law is to correct that conflict. The conflict entered the Village Code during the recodification process conducted several years ago with General Code but had not been in the previous version of the Village Code.

**Upon vote:**

Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

**Item #5**

**Resolution #126-23**

## **Resolution Authorizing the Installation of Stop Signs at the Intersection of Serven Road and Terrace Road**

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Schwartz:

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees hereby requests that the Town of Ramapo Highway Department install “Stop” signs at the intersection of Serven Road and Terrace Road, in accordance with the email from the Village Engineer of the Village of Wesley Hills dated September 20, 2023, a copy of which plan is made a part of the Minutes of this Board is hereby approved.

Discussion:

Mayor Katz stated that he had received a request from a resident requesting a stop sign at this intersection and upon inspection there are no stop signs installed. The Village Engineer has inspected the location and agrees that stop signs should be installed.

Upon vote:

Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

### **Item #6**

### **Resolution #127-23**

#### **Resolution Accepting the Proposal from Weston & Sampson for Video Services at the Timber Trail Culvert**

Trustee Schwartz made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Cherns:

**RESOLVED**, that the proposal submitted from Weston & Sampson for Video Services at the Timber Trail Culvert, a copy of which is made a part of the minutes of this Board, is hereby accepted, and the Mayor is authorized to indicate the approval and acceptance of such proposal by signing same on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

Discussion:

Mayor Katz stated that during the storm in July of 2023 the culvert on Timber Trail overflowed causing flooding in the area. The culvert was blocked with debris that was cleaned out by Ramapo. The residents in the area have stated that the culvert has overflowed in the past so the proposal will allow the Village to look inside the determine if there is any damage. Further Weston & Sampson will be conducting a capacity analysis to ensure we do not need to enlarge the pipe. Separately Weston & Sampson will also be conducting a capacity analysis.

Upon vote:

Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

### **Item #7**

### **Resolution #128-23**

#### **Resolution Approving Abstracts of Audited Claims**

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Schwartz:

**RESOLVED**, that the general fund claims, #21186 through #21269 in the aggregate amount of \$158,720.86 as set forth in Abstract #10/23 dated October 18, 2023, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

Upon vote:

Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

#### **Item #8**

#### **Resolution #129-23**

#### **Resolution Approving Transfer of Funds**

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Schwartz:

**RESOLVED**, that the transfers in the aggregate amount of \$75,000.00 as set forth in Abstract #10/23 dated October 18, 2023, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

Upon vote:

Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

#### **Item #9 - Mayor's Report**

##### Martha Road FEMA Reimbursement

Mayor Katz stated that he has received an email from FEMA, and it looks as though the Village will receive reimbursement in the amount slightly in excess of \$200,000.

##### Lime Kiln/Wilder Intersection

Mayor Katz stated that we have received the warrant analysis letter from Colliers Engineering which states that the intersection does not warrant a traffic signal. They have offered the following mitigation options: Tree Trimming, 4-way stop sign, flashing beacon that an intersection is ahead, and ultimately a round-a-bout. We will receive a letter to that effect within a week for our action.

Trustee Cherns stated that the County is against a 4 way stop sign will this letter help us get the stop signs?

Mayor Katz answered that he asked Colliers that and the Rep stated that he has worked with the County before and the letter will move things along.

##### Rockland County Conference of Mayors

Mayor Katz stated that Steve Powers is the guest speaker at the next meeting on October 30 and he will speak to him about getting the stop signs on Lime Kiln/Wilder moved along.

##### Upcoming Meetings

|             |                             |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| October 24  | Workshop meeting CANCELLED. |
| November 2  | Regular Board meeting       |
| November 21 | Workshop meeting            |
| December 5  | Regular Board meeting       |
| December 19 | Workshop meeting            |

#### **Village Clerk/Treasurer's Report**

Camille Guido-Downey presented the monthly financial reports and stated the following information:

98% of the Village taxes were collected.

31 complaints with three for work without a permit

Community Yard sale is scheduled for Sunday, October 22 from 8:30-5 at Village Hall parking lot.

Camille is teaching a class at the RC Planning Federation Clerks training on October 27, 2023, 9-1

Currently working on a TAP grant for sidewalks on Wilder Road

Currently out for proposals for lawn maintenance and snowplowing

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Schwartz made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss litigation and a personnel matter, seconded by Trustee Cherns. Upon vote: Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

No action was taken during the Executive Session.

Trustee Schwartz made a motion to exit the Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Cherns. Upon vote: Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Cherns made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Schwartz. Upon vote: Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Camille Guido-Downey