



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

November 02, 2023, at 7:00 PM

432 Route 306, Wesley Hills, NY 10952

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

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

RESOLUTION #130-23

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the minutes of October 18, 2023, seconded by Trustee Schwartz. Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion carried unanimously.

ITEM #2

RESOLUTION #131-23

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING AMOUNT OF UNPAID TAXES

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

WHEREAS, the Village Treasurer has returned the 2023 Village of Wesley Hills Assessment Roll and Warrant and has delivered to this Board an account of the unpaid taxes which sets forth the sum of \$23,216.40, exclusive of interest as the total amount of taxes unpaid (\$24,841.55, inclusive of interest), and

WHEREAS, this Board has compared the account of unpaid taxes with the original Assessment Roll, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby finds and certifies that the account of unpaid taxes is correct and that the total amount of taxes unpaid of \$23,216.40, exclusive of interest (\$24,841.55, inclusive of interest) is hereby approved.

Upon vote:

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

ITEM #3

RESOLUTION APPROVING INDEMNIFICATION & HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FOR 7 HARRIET LANE

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

RESOLVED, that the Indemnification and Hold Harmless Agreement between the Village of Wesley Hills and Jack Koschitzki, 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 Agreement by signing same on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

Discussion:

Mayor Katz stated that he noticed on the plan that the pool patio is in the sewer easement. Members stated that they have not visited the property and would like time to visit.

Trustee Cherns made a motion to table this item until such time as the Members visit the property, seconded by Trustee Schwartz. Upon vote: Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz. This motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM #4

RESOLUTION #132-23

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PARTIAL RELEASE OF ESCROW FUNDS FOR 2 DEERWOOD ROAD

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

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2023, the Village Engineer recommended that Lipa Hager post the sum of \$20,500.00 with the Village of Wesley Hills to be held in escrow for the completion of a single-family home with a synagogue at 2 Deerwood Road, and

WHEREAS there remains on deposit with the Village of Wesley Hills the balance of said escrow fund in the sum of \$20,500.00, and

WHEREAS, by email dated October 19, 2023, the Village Engineer of the Village of Wesley Hills recommended the partial release of the escrow fund to Lipa Hager in the amount of \$10,500.00.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk of the Village of Wesley Hills is hereby directed to refund the partial sum of \$10,500.00 less the sum of \$250.00 to be retained by the Village of Wesley Hills as and for an administration fee resulting in a net refund to be paid to the aforesaid Lipa Hager in the amount of \$10,250.00.

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

ITEM #5

RESOLUTION #133-23

RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF WESLEY HILLS ENTITLED, "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF WESLEY HILLS TO REVISE THE ZONING LAW IN RELATION TO THE 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 Board of Trustees has sent the draft local law out for referral to the Planning Board and other agencies, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the Municipal Home Rule Law Section 7-706 of the Village Law, a Public Hearing on the adoption of said proposed Local Law shall be held before the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills on the 5th day of December 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall, 432 Route 306, in the Village of Wesley Hills, at which time citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard with respect to such Local Law,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the notice of said time and place of Public Hearing shall be published and posted by the Village Clerk at least ten (10) days in advance of such time in the manner provided by law.

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

ITEM #6 **RESOLUTION #134-23**
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, #21,276 through #21,372 in the aggregate amount of \$90,885.46 as set forth in Abstract #11/23 dated November 2, 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 #7 **RESOLUTION #135-23**
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 \$100,000.00 as set forth in Abstract #11/23 dated November 2, 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
MAYOR'S REPORTS

Brooker Engineering/Weston & Sampson

Mayor Katz stated that Matthew Trainor, P.E., who has represented the Village for several years will be leaving the company. Mayor Katz discussed several options with the Trustees and decided that Devon Palmieri, who works under Matt, will step up and seek Eve Mancuso, P.E. assistance when needed.

Lime Kiln/Wilder Intersection

Mayor Katz stated that the Village has completed their traffic studies performed by Colliers, and it was concluded that the intersection does not warrant a temporary or permanent traffic signal. The letter states that a 4-way stop sign would be acceptable along with the final goal of a roundabout. The Rockland County Highway Department has responded to the Village with a letter not agreeing with the recommendation in the report for the 4-way stop signs. Mayor Katz stated that Colliers is responding to the letter and the Mayor will request a meeting with the County and would like one of the Trustees to attend. Trustee Cherns volunteered to attend the meeting.

Willow Tree Speed Tables

Mayor Katz stated that the Ramapo Highway Superintendent, Fred Brinn contacted him and stated that the Town would like the Village to consider speed tables on Willow Tree Road (from the roundabout to Grandview) to control the commercial traffic and speeding on that roadway. Mayor Katz stated that this issue will be discussed and reviewed. Hopefully if a contractor is found, they can do the work on E Willow that we planned on.

Timber Trail Culvert

Mayor Katz stated that the videoing work was completed this week, and he will share the results once they are available.

AMS-15 Terrace Trail

Mayor Katz stated that he attended a meeting with the Applicant, Contractor, Applicant's Attorney Village Engineer, Planning Board Attorney, and residents to discuss the flooding and all the repairs.

Wesley Chapel Culvert/Bridge

Mayor Katz stated that the Village Clerk received a call from NYSDOT who stated that the Village should apply under the new Bridge grant when it is released. The application should be for the same project with the increased cost as other municipalities have been successful in obtaining the additional funding needed to complete the project.

ITEM #10

VILLAGE ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ben Selig gave an update on the faculty housing draft law, and the re-creation of the HOA-Greg Sikorsky Drive.

ITEM #9

VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Camille Guido-Downey presented the following information:

- 29 complaints.
- 1 complaint received for work without a permit.
- Tax season is over, and the staff move into budget and election season.
- We are one month out from testing the code enforcement program.
- Planning files we sent out for scanning which completes our program.
- Village Hall is closed 11/10, 11/23 & 11/24.
- 11/30 proposals are due for landscaping and snow plowing.
- 12/18 Village 1st blood drive with NY Blood Center.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Katz stated that the Village received new custodial agreements from M&T Bank.

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

RESOLUTION #136-23

RESOLVED, that the “New Third Party Custodian Agreement” among Manufacturers and Traders, Trust Company and the Village of Wesley Hills as Depositor and Wilmington Trust National Association as Custodian, a copy of which is made a part of the minutes of this Board is hereby accepted and approved and the Mayor is authorized to indicate the acceptance and approval of such agreement by signing same on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

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

Mayor Katz stated the Village also received a proposal from Weston and Sampson for the TAP grant.

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

RESOLUTION #137-23

RESOLVED, that the proposal for Engineering Services of Brooker Engineer/ Weston & Sampson for the Wilder Road Sidewalk TAP Grant application for 2023 dated November 2, 2023, 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 agreement by signing same on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Camille Guido-Downey