

Mayor Leon opened the January 18, 2011 Regular Meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Present:	Mayor	Jay Leon
	Deputy Mayor/Trustee	Peter Porcino
	Trustee	Gary Malone
	Trustee	Beverly A. Levine
	Village Manager	George Calvi
	Village Attorney	Robert J. Ponzini
	Village Clerk	Barbara Berardi
	Recording Secretary	Lorraine McSpedon
Absent:	Trustee	Larry J. Nardecchia

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE: David Flynn, Ex-Fire Chief

Eric Zamft, Consultant, Siccardi & Schiff/VHB presented himself to the Board and at the request of Tr. Porcino explained the reason for the name change of his firm due to a merging with VHB.

Mr. Zamft gave an overview of the Waterwheel Project status. The Planning, Zoning and Architectural Review Boards' comments were presented and the following issues were made note of:

- Each of the Boards has strongly recommended that the sidewalk be extended up to the adjacent mall.
- They have concerns regarding stormwater running to and off of the site.
- The visual aspect of the project off of 9A is a concern of the Boards.
- The impact of traffic to the Village is of concern.
- The impact of community services is of concern.

The applicant now owes the Village additional information regarding the above comments, which will be submitted shortly.

The Village Attorney suggested to Mr. Zamft that a work session be held to discuss these issues, together with reviewing the data which has been submitted by the applicant, prior to the next Village Board meeting so that the Village Board can determine at a later date if further mitigation is required. The SEQRA application can also be reviewed.

A work session was scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at 8:00 p.m. Mayor Leon mentioned that Mr. Conrad Roncati and Mr. Larry Tomasso should be in attendance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tr. Porcino: Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 3, 2011, as submitted. **Seconded by Tr. Levine and passed unanimously.**

III. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

LEGAL REPORT: Attorney Ponzini had nothing to report but did have two outstanding legal issues, one of which regarded the oil spill, which is on the agenda this evening and the other regarded a settlement from last May. This item could be discussed following this evening's meeting in Executive Session.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Calvi read the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Marion DeMaio.

The bills for the last two weeks from the General Fund were \$110,864.74; from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$6,705.45 and from the Capital Fund: \$154.80.

Tr. Malone: Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the following expenditures: From the General Fund: \$110,864.74; from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$6,705.45 and from the Capital Fund: \$154.80. **Seconded by Tr. Porcino and passed unanimously.**

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Calvi reported the following:

**VILLAGE MANAGER REPORT
PREPARED BY GEORGE F. CALVI
FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2011**

MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGE: A reminder to residents that the next meeting of the Ardsley Village Board of Trustees will NOT be Monday, January 31 but rather Tuesday, February 1 at 8:00 pm. This temporary change from the first and third Monday of the month routine was made two Village Board meetings ago.

GRIEVANCE NIGHT: Also, a reminder to residents that the third Tuesday in February, specifically February 15 will be the Village's annual property tax grievance night when the Village Board will sit as the Board of Assessment Review between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 pm. The new assessment roll which covers tax year 2011-2012 will be filed in the office of the Village Clerk by the Village Assessor no earlier than February 1 when it will become available for public inspection.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL: I will be meeting with our consultant Don Marra this Friday to review the latest set of correspondence with NYS DOT regarding the Safe Routes to School program involving both construction documents for the new sidewalk as well as a pedestrian information program. As you may recall the Village received a substantial grant a while back to reconstruct the sidewalks on Heatherdell Road from Farm Road to Olympic Lane to encourage students to walk to school.

UNITED WATER MEETING: Last week I had a meeting in my office with United Water General Manager Christopher Graziano. He is making an effort to visit with all the municipalities to share how they are improving communications with the various fire departments. He had already met with Ardsley Fire Chiefs Vinnie Coulehan and Mark Florkowski in two separate meetings. He provided me what he provided the two chiefs, specifically, a hydrant summary report of all the 155 hydrants serviced in the Village during calendar year 2010. He also provided me with a CD – R containing a photographic image of each hydrant in Ardsley that was serviced. These photographs illustrate the date of service, along with a flow of the hydrant confirming its operational status at the time. I suspect this great effort has much to do with the criticism they've received in the media that they have not been maintaining the hydrants which if you speak to one of the Chiefs I seem to recall them saying this spate of maintenance is a rather recent development.

In conclusion Chris expressed his pleasure that there have always been open lines of communication between UW and the Village of Ardsley and he hoped to maintain it that way. He also shared that no more painting of water towers in Ardsley was on the dockets for several years. Some may recall the brouhaha last winter when the repainting of the water tower on Oak Street was delayed in to the winter months and the neighbors were complaining because the high winds were constantly unraveling the canvas scaffolding and making these horrendous noises in the wee hours of the morning.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Chief Coulehan delivered both the annual and monthly fire reports.

Chief Coulehan reported on a recent gas leak at the Chase Bank at Town Plaza and Mayor Leon questioned Con Edison's responsibility for this leak. Chief Coulehan explained that the leak was the responsibility of the landlord but did indicate that Con Edison responded accurately and secured the gas to the building.

Mayor Leon encouraged residents to support the local businesses in the Plaza.

Chief Coulehan encouraged residents to clear the fire hydrants of snow near their homes.

Tr. Porcino questioned the fire hydrant inspection status. Chief Coulehan responded that he believes they have all been tested. The next test will be on water flow levels which should be completed by June 30, 2011.

Regarding the County Budget Hearings which Chief Coulehan attended in December, Tr. Porcino questioned whether Chief Coulehan had any concerns with regard to these hearings. Chief Coulehan responded that on the emergency services side, he was concerned that various volunteer personnel would be eliminated which would cause a burden on the Department. However, it was decided to maintain the personnel for the immediate future.

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Califano delivered the December report.

Mayor Leon questioned the increase in traffic accidents versus a year ago and Chief Califano responded that it was hard to determine the cause.

Mayor Leon also mentioned the arrest made by Officer Stevenson which involved counterfeit money being confiscated along with stolen credit cards.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

Mayor Leon read the report in the absence of Mr. Tomasso and Tr. Nardecchia.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) Thanks were extended to the DPW for their efforts during the recent snow removal.
- 2) Alan Briendel, proprietor, Pumperknickel Restaurant, is very ill with pneumonia and will be hospitalized indefinitely. Best wishes were extended.
- 3) Condolences were extended to Zoning Board member Nancy Kaboolian on the recent passing of her father.
- 4) Tomorrow evening, January 19th, the Village of Dobbs Ferry will be holding a meeting which will include a presentation by a developer who will outline the plans for the Akzo property which includes 200 residential townhouses, a hotel, a supermarket, 40,000 sq. ft. of commercial property and two restaurants. Mayor Leon encouraged the EAC and Lorraine Kuhn to attend.
- 5) On February 15th, an election will be held for the County Legislator seat in the 12th District.
- 6) The Stagioni Pizziera grand opening will be held on Sunday from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

- 7) An article appeared in this month's NYCOM Magazine regarding public meetings which indicated that there was no requirement in State law for municipalities to have public comments at their meetings. Mayor Leon noted that Ardsley has been very liberal about the public comment period at the meetings and a time limit may be implemented in the future. Additionally, official reports should be placed on the agenda in the future rather than being handled during the public comment period of the meeting.

IV. COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS:

Tr. Porcino:

- 1) Attended the regular meeting of the Youth Council. An upcoming dance was the topic of the meeting.
- 2) Attended the regular meeting of the Ridge Hill Municipal Intersections Committee and a report is scheduled for the next meeting on February 1st.
- 3) Attended the Democratic Convention.

Tr. Nardecchia: Absent

Tr. Malone:

Nothing to report

Tr. Levine:

- 1) The ASVAC numbers for the month of December: Total 70 (42 day; 19 evening; 7 night and 11 mutual aide). Total for 2010: 707
- 2) Beginning tomorrow, the Veteran's project will feature interviews with Rudy Dualsky.

Mr. Calvi mentioned that he and Tr. Levine will attend the February 28th NYCOM Conference in Albany.

V. VISITOR'S

Ms. Patricia Hoffman, 69 Bramblebrook Road, Ardsley, presented herself to the Board to follow up on her December appearance regarding the grievance process. She mentioned her pleasure with the Board's change which was made to the application, no longer making the appearance of the applicants mandatory.

Ms. Hoffman questioned the status of the SCAR applications for the year 2009. Ms. Berardi stated several are outstanding at this time which need to be signed off on by the Court. They should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Ms. Hoffman questioned what the total amount of the refunds would be. Tr. Levine stated the total was \$79,536.68.

Ms. Hoffman also stated that she requested, at last month's meeting, whether changes would be made to the process and how much information the Village would provide to the residents with regard to the calculation process and the RAR being used. Mayor Leon stated that no changes would be forthcoming.

Judge Schwartz thanked the public for voting for him in the last election and wished all a safe and sane New Year.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO EXECUTE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH NYS ATTORNEY GENERAL, ET. AL, REGARDING AN OIL SPILL

Trustee Levine: Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Mayor to sign a settlement agreement with the New York State Office of the Attorney General, Robison Oil, and P & B Excavating regarding clean up of home heating oil spill which occurred at the Ardsley Public Library on December 9, 1996. **Seconded by Trustee Malone and passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX CERTIORARI SETTLEMENT – ARDSLEY ASSOCIATES

Trustee Levine: Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Attorney to sign a stipulation of settlement for the Ardsley Associates for the years 2005-2009 in the approximate amount of \$45,000. **Seconded by Trustee Malone and passed unanimously.**

VII. NEW BUSINESS

**RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE PUBLIC INFORMATION HEARING
REGARDING PROPOSED TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS FUNDED BY RIDGE
HILL SETTLEMENT**

Trustee Porcino: Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby schedules a public information hearing for 9:00 pm, Tuesday, February 1, 2011 for the purpose of presenting proposals for various traffic improvements made possible by funds from the Ridge Hill Settlement. **Seconded by Trustee Levine and passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR GRANT FOR DETENTION POND UPGRADE

Trustee Malone: Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Manager to apply for a \$200,000 BRWI grant for the Ashford Park Detention Pond Upgrade assembled by Storm Water assistant, Lorraine Kuhn. Such grant includes a \$25,000 local match which will be totally satisfied in the form of in kind services. **Seconded by Trustee Levine and passed unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

The next meeting of the Village Board will be Tuesday, February 1, 2011 followed by Tuesday, February 15, 2011.

Tr. Porcino: Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby adjourns the regular meeting of Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 9:24 p.m. into Executive Session, not to return. **Seconded by Tr. Levine and passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine McSpedon, Recording Secretary