

**VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020**

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|----------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Present: | Mayor | Nancy Kaboolian |
| | Deputy Mayor Trustee | Andy DiJusto |
| | Trustee | Evan Yager |
| | Trustee | Joann D'Emilio |
| | Trustee | Steve Edelstein |
| | Village Manager | Meredith S. Robson |
| | Village Attorney | Robert Ponzini |
| | Village Treasurer | Leslie Tillotson |
| | Village Clerk | Ann Marie Rocco |

8:15 p.m. PUBLIC HEARING

To Consider the Tentative Budget for the Village of Ardsley for the Fiscal Year Beginning June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021

Mayor Kaboolian called to order the Regular Meeting at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXIT SIGNS

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting – Monday, March 16, 2020

Trustee DiJusto: RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, March 16, 2020 as amended.

Seconded by Trustee Yager and passed unanimously.

IV. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

LEGAL REPORT: Village Attorney Robert Ponzini stated there is nothing to report other than those matters that he has ongoing with staff.

MANAGER'S REPORT – 04/06/2020

Village Manager Robson read the following report:

- 1. BUDGET PROCESS:** The Tentative 2020-21 Budget is available online on the Village website. However, given the current circumstances surrounding the pandemic, the Board has discussed a number of changes to the budget and these changes will be explained during the public hearing portion of Monday's agenda. We intend to hold the meeting

through Zoom and will allow public comment through that program. The public is also encouraged to send questions on the budget to my office and we will get answers back to you as soon as we are able.

- 2. CORONAVIRUS IMPACT:** Staff, first responders and our elected officials are all working hard to maintain basic village services during the pandemic. This is a very challenging time for everyone. Please be patient if you do not receive an immediate response to a message you left on voicemail or an email you sent in. Village notifications regarding the impact of the virus on municipal operations, as well as governmental information on the virus itself, is being disseminated as often as we have information to share. There is so much information coming out from a variety of sources that we are attempting to strike a balance between informing the community and overwhelming the community! In the interest of public safety, the safety of our first responders and staff, we continue to make decisions that we collectively believe are necessary to prevent the spread of this virus in the Village. Remember that we are a very small organization and even one positive case could severely impact our ability to work on your behalf. Our elected officials, staff and emergency volunteers are working carefully, but still working hard. As I have said before, it is during these very types of situations that I am most proud to work with others in public service. We are not shying from the responsibility, but rather working to do as much as we can to make sure this community is protected and everyone gets to go home (or stay home) safely! Please be safe.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Village Treasurer, Leslie Tillotson read the Treasurer's Report for April 6, 2020:

Ms. Tillotson stated the bills for the past two weeks totaled as follows: From the General Fund: \$175,172.59; from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$0.00 and from the Capital Fund: \$0.00.

Trustee Yager: RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Treasurer to make the following payments: From the General Fund: \$175,172.59 from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$0.00 and from the Capital Fund: \$0.00. **Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.**

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Police Chief Anthony Piccolino announced the following:

- Thanked all the residents for their out pouring of support.
- Residents are abiding and are social distancing themselves.
- Police Officers are trying to educate residents regarding social distancing when needed.
- Reminded residents that it's okay to get out and walk but they should maintain the distance.
- Thanked ASVAC and the Fire Department for all their support.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Kaboolian announced the following:

- Thanked all of our volunteers and employees for all their support during this crisis.
- Reminded residents that Village Hall is closed until further notice. The pause will continue for another 2 weeks.
- Volunteers having been reaching out to our Senior Citizens. Reminded residents that if they know anyone who needs help they should contact her at nkaboolian@ardsleyvillage.com.
- Good news! 9A is being repaved.
- Flags in Ardsley will be lowered to half-staff in memory of the lives that were lost to COVID-19.
- Reminded residents to complete the 2020 Census. Please visit: www.my2020census.gov
- We will be instituting a policy that leaf blowers will be prohibited during this state of emergency. Gardeners are essential services and can do clean up and cutting but they cannot plant.
- Reminded residents that CDC has now recommended to cover our faces when leaving the house.

TRUSTEE DIJUSTO:

Trustee DiJusto thanked everyone for their continued support to our first responders.

TRUSTEE YAGER:

Nothing to report

TRUSTEE D'EMILIO:

Trustee D'Emilio announced that the Ardsley Historical Society held their first board meeting via zoom. They will continue to work on their newsletter.

Reminded residents they can also learn how to make their own masks by watching YouTube video, Surgeon General-makes homemade mask.

TRUSTEE EDELSTEIN:

Trustee Edelstein announced that all the bulbs that were planted at Silliman Park are starting to bloom.

VISITORS:

Westchester County Legislator Mary Jane Shimsky spoke about e-blasts and getting information out to the community. Since we are dealing with the Coronavirus crisis the county is sending out several notices a day. Please visit www.westchesterlegislators.com where residents will be able to sign up for e-blasts.

Mayor Kaboolian agreed that during this time, it is important to have the most up to date information.

Westchester County Executive, George Latimer provided an update regarding COVID-19:

- Currently there are a high number of cases in the county.
- County Center is being converted into a hospital and should be completed by Friday.
- Glen Island was turned over to a testing center.
- Westchester Medical Center has drive-through testing available.
- Our health department nurses will continue to visit individual homes.
- Presently we are in a good situation with PPE's (Personal Protection Equipment).
- Bee- Line busses have made some changes and the passengers are spaced out more. However, ridership is significantly down.
- The County parks that are open now are generally open in the winter season. The Spring/Summer parks will have delayed openings.
- Golf courses remain open because it is not a contact sport.
- Will be following up with the State Comptroller's Office regarding how we will be predicting revenues and expenses.

Resident called to question if there is a technical need for the ASVAC siren?

Mayor Kaboolian answered: Yes. At this time, there is a need for the siren.

Resident (Nick) had a question regarding Suez/Con Edison road work and wanted to know if Suez will be repaving our beautifully paved roads that are now destroyed?

Village Manager Robson explained that Con Edison is doing the work and they are responsible for repairing the roads.

Serge Del Grosso thanked the Mayor and the Board for keeping the community updated during this time. Mr. Del Grosso had the following questions:

- Wanted to confirm how many cases there were in the Village?
- Is there a list of the businesses that are still open?
- Will Ardsley be supporting first responders by clapping at 7:00 p.m.?

Mayor Kaboolian believes there are 33 cases in the Village. We did publish a list a few weeks ago with the businesses that were open. However, a few of the businesses have since closed.

This list is hard to keep track of because it does change frequently. Mayor Kaboolian advised that we will be recognizing our first responders and to look out for a blast.

Linda Kyle had the following questions: Would we be able to be add water/sprinkler park into this year's budget? Will there be curbside pick for library books?

Mayor Kaboolian explained that unfortunately this year water/sprinkler park will not be in the budget.

Village Manager Robson explained as of now, the water park is budgeted for 2025-2026 budget and the estimate cost is \$250,000 but the cost is likely to change.

Trustee Edelstein added that the Recreation Commission has been talking about the improvements at Pascone Park. However, there are other things that need to be repaired at the park when we can move forward.

Mayor Kaboolian will ask George Latimer about the curbside pick-up for library books.

Alesha Miro suggested residents visit www.archive.org for free library books.

Resident questioned the noise pollution off of 87 and if there has been any discussion about that as a Board?

Mayor Kaboolian explained that our Traffic committee has discussed this and will be reaching out to the State to ask for some assistance with sound barriers.

8:15 P.M. – OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

To consider the Tentative Budget for the Village of Ardsley for the Fiscal Year Beginning June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2020.

Village Manager, Meredith Robson provided a brief overview of the 2020-2021 Budget and explained that this is a very different budget situation due to the pandemic. The budget was put together before the pandemic began and has changed significantly based on conversations with the Board. Village Manager Robson reviewed what the budget looked like prior to the pandemic and spoke about the changes that were made after the pandemic hit. Village Manager Robson explained that we were able to accomplish a great deal of capital work in the original budget and we were in really good shape. Once the pandemic hit there were changes that needed to be made. The biggest change is that we have significantly reduced revenue that was in the tentative budget. We have also reduced expenditures in the amount of approximately \$400,000. The projects that the Board has discussed will now be financed. Capital Honeywell Rd East, Exeter Place, Bramble Brook Road, Overlook Road, Firehouse Fire Alarm System, Live Scan Fingerprinting, Community Center, Storm Sewer and Fire Department struts. We are hoping that the changes will help us during these difficult times. The other large change is the addition of the sewer fund.

Mayor Kaboolian thanked everyone who has been working on this budget and stated that one of our biggest challenges is that we do not know what the impact will be on our revenues and assessed values going forward.

At 9:44 p.m. the Public Hearing will be adjourned until April 20, 2020.

Trustee Yager: RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby adjourns the Public Hearing to consider the Tentative Budget for the Village of Ardsley for the Fiscal Year Beginning June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021 until April 20, 2020. **Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.**

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider a Resolution to Appoint Carol Sommerfield to the Conservation and Environment Advisory Committee (CEAC)

RESOLUTION TO FOR APPOINTMENT TO CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Trustee D’Emilio: RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby makes the appointment of Carol Sommerfield to the Conservation and Environment Advisory Committee (CEAC), effective through December 31, 2020. **Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.**

2. Consider a Resolution to Amend the FMLA Policy to include Families First Coronavirus Response Act (“Act”)

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FMLA POLICY TO INCLUDE FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT (“ACT”)

Trustee Edelstein: WHEREAS, on or about March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency regarding the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, on or about March 18, 2020, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (“Act”), which included a temporary expansion of the FMLA and emergency paid leave provisions, was signed into federal law; and

WHEREAS, the Act is due to take effect no later than April 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Act permits covered employers, including public employers, to exclude emergency responders and health care providers from the applicable FMLA and emergency paid leave provisions of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Ardsley (“Village”) recognizes that its emergency responders and/or health care providers deliver critical public health and safety emergency services to the Village’s residents and businesses,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. Effective retroactively to April 2, 2020, and to the extent it may be required by federal law or regulation, the Village hereby exempts and excludes its emergency responders, including, but not limited to, all members of its Police, Highway/Public Works, Fire Departments and any other job classifications as may be excludable under federal law and regulations as may exist, from any applicable FMLA and emergency paid leave provisions of the Act.
2. The Village reserves the right to modify or terminate this Resolution at any time in order to meet the needs of the Village and its employees. **Seconded by Trustee D’Emilio and passed unanimously.**
3. Consider a Resolution to Authorize the Village Manager to Sign an Amendment to Agreement for Services between the Village of Ardsley and PACE University

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO SIGN AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY AND PACE UNIVERSITY

Trustee DiJusto: RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Manager to sign an amendment to the agreement with Pace University; such amendment is dated April 3, 2020 for services related to the completion of the Comprehensive Plan and LWRP. **Seconded by Trustee Yager and passed unanimously.**

VIII. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – No Executive Session

IX. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Trustee D’Emilio: RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley Hereby adjourns the regular meeting of Monday, April 6, 2020 at 9:47 p.m. **Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously.**

X. NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING: Monday, April 20, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Rocco
Village Clerk

Village of Ardsley
Board of Trustees- April 6, 2020