



## MINUTES

### Ardsley Village Board of Trustees

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**8:00 PM - Monday, February 1, 2021**

Meeting held via Zoom Platform

Present: Mayor	Nancy Kaboolian
Deputy Mayor/Trustee	Andy Di Justo
Trustee	Joann D'Emilio
Trustee	Steve Edelstein
Trustee	Craig Weitz
Village Manager	Meredith S. Robson
Village Clerk	Ann Marie Rocco
Village Attorney	Robert J. Ponzini

Absent:

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXIT SIGNS**
3. **Mayor Kaboolian called to order the Regular Meeting at 8:00 p.m.**

**PROCLAMATION - GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY** Trustee D'Emilio read the Gun Violence Awareness proclamation.

1. **GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK PROCLAMATION  
DECLARING THE WEEK OF  
FEBRUARY 1, 2021 TO FEBRUARY 7, 2021  
NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVOR WEEK**

This proclamation declares the week of February 1, 2021, to February 7, 2021, to be National Gun Violence Survivor Week in Ardsley, New York, to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and uplift the resilient voices

of survivors across the nation.

**WHEREAS**, every year, nearly 39,000 Americans are killed in acts of gun violence and nearly 85,000 more are shot and wounded;

**WHEREAS**, by early February, more Americans are killed with guns than are killed in our peer countries in an entire calendar year;

**WHEREAS**, a gun violence survivor is anyone who has personally experienced gun violence — whether they have witnessed an act of gun violence, been threatened or wounded with a gun, or had someone they know and cared for wounded or killed;

**WHEREAS**, forms of gun violence can include, but are not limited to: gun suicides, gun homicides, domestic violence involving a gun, shootings by law enforcement, and unintentional shootings;

**WHEREAS**, 58 percent of American adults, including 68 percent of Black and Latino Americans, or someone they have cared for, has experienced gun violence in their lifetime, demonstrating the reach and impact gun violence has in communities across America;

**WHEREAS**, firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens;

**WHEREAS**, Americans in communities across the nation are working to end the senseless violence by advocating for common-sense gun safety legislation;

**WHEREAS**, by commemorating National Gun Violence Survivors Week, February 1 to February 7, cities and towns across America will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives stolen by gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our communities safe.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley, declares February 1 to February 7, 2021 to be National Gun Violence Survivors Week. We encourage all citizens to support their communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Date: February 1, 2021

**ARDSLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT-PETER MARCUS**

1. President, Peter Marcus read the following 2020 annual report:

During 2020 the Ardsley Historical Society (AHS) was very active in the Ardsley community. Last year we had 149 dues paying members, 46 of whom were new members (we only had 22 new members in 2019) and including 30 former residents who have moved out of the Ardsley area. Our 2020 calendar featured major buildings in Ardsley using a “then & now“ theme.

On May 8 Pete sent out a link to all AHS members for the Spring Newsletter (since our printing company had not been designated as an “essential” business we had to deliver the May newsletter electronically). For those members who did not have an email address Meredith agreed to print hard copies and mail them for us. That work was finished on May 11. The newsletter articles included: A History of the Ardsley Public Library (by George Calvi), The Four Presidents of Ardsley: 1896-1927 (by Walter Schwartz), The Presidents and the Poorhouse (by George Calvi), The Mysterious Staircase (by Matt Arone), Polio & Scarlet Fever (by George Calvi), Ardsley Sports Hall of Fame & Trish Lacy’s Induction (by George Calvi) and Irene Beasley: Ardsley’s First lady of Song (by Gary Rappaport).

On October 28 the Fall newsletter was mailed out to all Ardsley Village residents and business owners. The newsletter articles included: Remembering Lucille (Kallen) Engel (by George Calvi), Alexander Hamilton Slept Here (by Gary Rappaport), The Jay Leon years (by Peter Porcino), Remembering Victoria Denardo (by George Calvi), Where is this Bank Vault Located (by Matt Arone), Fire Truck Sale to the Island of Montserrat (by George Calvi) and the 1969 First Amendment Lawsuit brought by Ardsley High School students (by Gary Rappaport).

During 2020 we were not able to conduct in person programs due to the Covid-19 restrictions. However, we did conduct several virtual programs. On April 30 we distributed a link to our members for Susan Seal’s Odell House Update that was given to the Town of Greenburgh on Jan 15. On June 22 we distributed a link for Walter Schwartz’s presentation (Westchester Women: Suffrage & Suffering at the Polls) that he had previously given to the Old Guard of Westchester. On Sept 21 we distributed a link for Walter Schwartz’s presentation (Local Justice and Injustice) that he had previously given to the Old Guard of Westchester. We also encouraged our members to take advantage of the virtual programs that the Irvington Historical Society provided.

This year we expanded our presence on social media by periodically updating our Facebook page which contains an assortment of pictures as well as announcements of our upcoming events. We continued to use the “Then & Now” section by posting new pictures every month from our 2020 calendar. We also continued to use Burbio to post the dates for our Board meetings and programs.

We have continued to maintain our archives and expand our digital inventory as people continued to make donations of articles, photographs, and other memorabilia as well as monetary contributions.

Some of our significant activities for 2020 included the following: in March we updated the Ardsley Timeline and posted it on our website; on May 15 we participated in Aleta Reid's 100th birthday motorcade; in July two representatives (Pierre Fontaine and Mary Keehan) started attending the Village's 125th Anniversary Steering Committee meetings; in September we renamed our newsletter to The Beacon (Illuminating Ardsley History); on November 5 we conducted a planning session with some of our Board members to prepare for a future meeting with the AUFSD Superintendent (Dr Ryan Schoenfeld) to explore ways we can collaborate to encourage students to learn about Ardsley history (unfortunately due to the periodic Covid-19 outbreaks in our schools the superintendent has been unable to meet with us); on Veterans Day Pete sent out a link to our membership of the Living History program (of interviews with local veterans) which was being shown on the local public access cable TV channel; on November 20 The Rivertowns' Enterprise published an article about the Historical Society's recent rebranding of our newsletter, the digitalization of Arthur Silliman's 3 volume History of Ardsley, the Revolutionary cannonball in our archives and our plans for conducting a walking tour as part of the Village's 125th Anniversary Celebration in 2021; in December the digitization work on Arthur Silliman's 3 volume History of Ardsley was completed by the Internet Archive and we posted a link on our website (on the Resources page); in December we also developed a new logo for our organization; in December Matt Arone created a website for the Ardsley High School baseball Dynasty (NY State Class C Champions from 1986-89) that contains numerous pictures and newspaper articles. There is a link for this site posted on our Resources page. We also added a link to our website on Ardsley's Wikipedia page.

During 2020 our organization has actively supported the Odell House Restoration. We provided Susan Seal (President of the Friends) with a copy of a 2006 program presented by Bob Stackpole about some mid-1970's restoration work that had been done. We also provided Susan with 4 pictures from the 1976 Bicentennial celebration event that was held at the Odell House. In addition, we have encouraged our membership to support the Odell House restoration by joining the Friends of Odell House Rochambeau Headquarters (OHRH).

During 2020 our organization has also actively supported the RW250 initiative (an organization that is working to promote events that focus on the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War) in Westchester. We have attended several of their activities: (Feb 29) The American Revolution in Pop Culture, (Oct 25) re-enactment of the Battle of White Plains, (Nov 15) Tarrytown: Traitors and Spies, patriots and Allies, British Boats and Hessian Ghosts by Dr Erik Weiselberg, RW250 Principal Historian. We have also distributed links to our membership of 5 informative videos on You Tube (search "Explore Westchester County's Revolutionary War Sites").

The AHS president (Pete Marcus) and the Village Historian (Rob Pellegrino) have

continued to respond to inquiries from current and former village residents. These inquiries include requests for information and pictures about past events, their ancestors, and their homes. Our archives have been a great resource in responding to these inquiries.

We have already begun implementing some of our plans for 2021. This year's calendar featured buildings and businesses from early Ardsley. The calendar was mailed to all AHS members on Dec 9-10 with the assistance of Ardsley resident Michael Desimone who helped stuff envelopes on "Giving Tuesday." Our Spring newsletter is already in progress. It will contain articles about the Ardsley High School Baseball Dynasty (1986-89), Part 2 of the First Amendment Lawsuit brought by some high school students in 1970 (Part 1 appeared in the recent Fall newsletter), and historical connections between Ardsley, Elmsford and Alexander Hamilton. Due to Covid-19 restrictions our programs will be limited to virtual delivery until further notice. We are working on a program with a history professor from Mercy College about Henry Clay; we may seek to co-sponsor this program with another Ardsley organization.

In the coming year we hope to obtain some type of recognition for Adolph Lewisohn in connection with the construction of the new Village Garage which will be done on a portion of his former estate. We feel that the access road from Heatherdell should be renamed Lewisohn Lane (from the current Wild Flowers Lane) and that a plaque describing his legacy should also be displayed on the property. We plan to add a search capability to our website so users can find specific information in our PDF documents (newsletters, etc.). We are also investigating a long-term project of digitalizing the back issues of the Rivertowns Enterprise.

We plan to continue to support and participate in the RW250 initiative and the Odell House restoration.

We hope to meet with the Superintendent of the Ardsley Schools to explore ways we can collaborate to encourage students to learn about Ardsley history.

The AHS has some specific staffing needs. If anyone has any of the following skills and is willing to volunteer some time please contact me (Pete Marcus at 914-393-3222) for more information:

1. Web Master: to maintain and enhance our website
2. PC Technical Skills: for expanding the digital inventory of our archives

We also have an opening on our Board of Directors. If you have an interest in Ardsley history, please contact me for more information. Of course we are always happy to have new members. To become a member or to renew your membership go to our website ([ardsleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://ardsleyhistoricalsociety.org)) and under "support" download our membership application, enclose your check and mail it to our PO Box (523). Our next monthly Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16 at 7:30 via Zoom. All Ardsley residents are welcome to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Peter Marcus, President

### **Westchester County Executive George Latimer**

1. County Executive George Latimer joined the meeting to provide updates on the Covid vaccine:
  - Westchester County Center has been open as a mass vaccination site.
  - Asked the Village to determine if there are any places they can use for a vaccination site.
  - Identify those individuals in the community that are home bound so that we can send our mobile team out to vaccinate them.
  - How many of our first responders have been vaccinated, EMS, Police, Fire, etc.? Society cannot open up properly until our first responders are vaccinated.

Mayor Kaboolian explained our seniors are struggling to sign up for the vaccine. Hopes there is a better streamline for our Seniors.

County Executive Latimer explained Emily Saltzman at Westchester County can help coordinate the vaccines with our seniors.

### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

#### **4.1 Regular Meeting Minutes January 19, 2021**

**Moved by Trustee DiJusto, Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed 4-0-1 Trustee Weitz abstained. RESOLVED** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, January 19, 2021 as submitted.

### **5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

#### **1. LEGAL**

- 1.a Village Attorney Ponzini stated there is nothing to report other than the matters that may have been submitted in memorandum form.

#### **2. MANAGER**

- 2.a Village Manager, Meredith Robson read the following report:
  1. **Village Hall Closing:** Village Offices will be closed on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> in observance of President Lincoln's and President Washington's Birthdays.

2. **Sanitation:** Due to the above holiday closings, there will be changes to our normal sanitation schedule which we will post on our website at [www.ardsleyvillage.com](http://www.ardsleyvillage.com) and the information can also be accessed on the Recycle Right Westchester app which is on our public works page of the website.
3. **Emergency Declaration and Order:** Yesterday I issued an Emergency Declaration and Order regarding the snow storm that is hitting us today and is expected to last through at least mid-day tomorrow. This afternoon I issued an extension of that declaration and order until 5:00 P.M. tomorrow. Please allow our crews who are working around the clock to provide safe and effective snow plowing operations by staying off the roads until the expiration of the declaration and order. I included information regarding garbage collection in the order, but will alert everyone again - there will be NO garbage collection until Friday, February 5th. If we have to make further changes to sanitation collection, we will blast out the information and post it on the website.

### 3. TREASURER

- 3.a Acknowledging Receipt of Report on Uncollected Taxes:  
Mayor Kaboolian stated that the Report of Uncollected Taxes will be accepted under submission.

#### *Treasurer's Return of Unpaid*

*Taxes as of February 1, 2021*

*Village of Ardsley*

#### **Fiscal Year June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021**

Budget Appropriation

\$11,177,985

Taxes collected by Treasurer through and including January 29, 2021

\$10,912,241

Uncollected taxes as of January 29, 2021

265,744

**Total Tax Levy**

**\$11,177,985**

- 3.b Abstract Report February 1, 2021  
Village Manager, Meredith S. Robson read the Treasurer's Report for February 1, 2021:

Ms. Robson stated the bills for the past two weeks totaled as follows: From the General Fund: \$56,913.53 from the Capital Fund: \$311,512.05, Trust & Agency

Fund: \$2,676.75 and Sewer Fund: \$2,400.00

**Moved by Trustee Weitz, Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.**  
**RESOLVED**, hat the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Treasurer to make the following payments: From the General Fund: \$56,913.53 from the Capital Fund: \$311,512.05; Trust & Agency Fund: \$2,676.75 and Sewer Fund: \$2,400.00

**4. BUILDING** No Building Department Report

**5. FIRE** No Fire Department Report

**6. POLICE** No Police Department Report

## **7. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.a Mayor Kaboolian announced the following:

- Reminded residents if they could keep the fire hydrants clean by their homes.
- DPW is working hard to keep our streets clear.

## **8. COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS**

8.a Trustee DiJusto announced the following:

- TPPCS meeting was held last month and they are still working with NYS to install sound barriers along the NYS thruway.
- Committee agreed that the crossing guard at the intersection of Center St. & Saw Mill River Rd. is a good short term solution.
- There is a new post at the right side of the Ashford Ave. bridge directing cars to stay in the left lane to make the left turn. The County approved the sign.
- The committee would like bike racks installed in the Village.
- Thanked Mayor Kaboolian for the new Ambulance truck. Works very well in severe weather.

Trustee Weitz did not have anything to report.

Trustee D'Emilio announced the following:

- 125th Anniversary Committee met last week and we are deciding on how we can proceed with comemerative events given the pandemic.
- Library & Multicultural Committee are sponsoring a book club on February 7th, The name of the book is Between the World and Me. Residents can still register for this event on the library website.

Trustee Edelstein announced the following:

- Multicultural Committee will be celebrating the Year of the Ox and the events



will be virtual. The first event will be on February 12th at 5:00 p.m. and the second event will be on February 13th at 11:00 am. To register for this celebration, please visit myrec.com.

- CEAC will be holding their Ardsley Can Zoominars on February 11th and February 24th. Please visit CEAC page at [www.ardsleyvillage.com](http://www.ardsleyvillage.com) to register.
- Recreation Commission also has various programs you can sign up for such as Chess, Bingo, Crafts, etc...visit myrec.com to register.

## **6. VISITORS**

## **7. OLD BUSINESS:**

- 7.1 Consider a Resolution of the Board of Trustees Declaring itself Lead Agency Pursuant to the NYS Environmental Protection Act for the Proposed Adoption of its Revised Comprehensive Plan ("The Plan"), Determining the Proposed Action will not have Significant Adverse Impacts for the Environment and Adopting as a Local Law the Final Comprehensive Plan

**Moved by Trustee DiJusto, Seconded by Trustee Weitz and passed unanimously.**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Ardsley ("Ardsley") is an incorporated Village within the County of Westchester and is charged and empowered by the Laws of the State of New York to provide for the orderly and beneficial development of its land and resources, and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with that responsibility, Ardsley, has undertaken the task of studying and drafting a revised and proposed comprehensive plan ("the Plan") to accomplish those objectives, and

WHEREAS the preparation and drafting of the Plan is the result of countless work sessions and public meetings over the past several years with both written and verbal comment from the public, and

WHEREAS, in the course of the preparation of the Plan, various experts in planning and environmental review, together with counsel experienced in environmental practice, were retained and employed to consult and assist in the drafting of the Plan, and

WHEREAS, in addition to formal meetings, there was a public survey completed together with workshops for the public to attend and express their thoughts and concerns, and

WHEREAS all these efforts and the results thereof have been shared to the maximum extent possible through the utilization of social media, including Ardsley's website, and

WHEREAS, as a result of this intensive and lengthy process and the preparation of numerous preliminary drafts, there now exists a final comprehensive plan ("Final Plan"), and

WHEREAS, the Final Plan has been reviewed by the Mayor and Board of Trustees and the consultants retained by Ardsley and has been deemed in form and substance appropriate for submission and approval, and

WHEREAS, Ardsley concurrently undertook two ancillary studies, the Sawmill River Revitalization Plan with funding from the New York State Department of State Hudson Valley Greenway and the Market Analysis and Development Plan, and incorporated the key findings from both studies into the Plan and included the work product from them as appendices to the Plan, and

WHEREAS the Final Plan is required to be circulated and reviewed pursuant Article 8 (State Environmental Review Act) of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law ("SEQR"), and

WHEREAS SEQR requires that the appropriate political body or administrative agency be designated Lead Agency for the SEQR review process, and

WHEREAS Ardsley believes it is the most appropriate and best suited board or agency to conduct and conclude the SEQR review process and elected to announce its intent to have itself declared lead agency for this review process, and

WHEREAS Ardsley was required to circulate its notice of intention ("Notice of Intent") to declare itself lead agency to any and all potential involved or interested agencies together with the Full Environmental Assessment Form – Part 1 and Map ("EAF"), and

WHEREAS. Ardsley, after circulation of its intent to declare itself lead agency with attachments, intended to declare itself lead agency and thereafter proceed in accordance with SEQR to make the appropriate environmental designation, and

WHEREAS, in addition to this environmental review, Ardsley on January 19, 2020 conducted a duly noticed public hearing in accordance with the Village Law of the State of New York for the formal adoption of the Final Plan into a local law, including its announcement of its intention to declare itself lead agency for the purpose of SEQR environmental review and included a formal presentation of the SEQR process by its environmental consultant, and

WHEREAS Ardsley formally referred the Draft Comprehensive Plan to the Westchester County Planning Department, neighboring localities, New York State Agencies and local planning boards and committees for their comment and review, and

WHEREAS the Draft Comprehensive Plan was reviewed by the Westchester County Planning Department which in turn expressed support for its adoption with minor changes which were incorporated in the final draft which is the document now being considered for

adoption as the Final Plan and has expressed no objection to Ardsley serving as Lead Agency, and

WHEREAS no other agency raised objections to Ardsley's intent to declare itself agency, and Ardsley formally commenced on January 21, 2021 the SEQR compliance process for the Final Plan, and

WHEREAS, to accomplish this SEQR review, Ardsley utilized the services of its environmental consultant Kevin Dwarka LLC ("Dwarka") who reviewed the Final Plan which is a document that presents the general policy objectives and community values that will later inform more detailed planning, zoning, and infrastructure studies, and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with that detailed review and evaluation of the Final Plan and completion of all three parts associated with the full Environmental Form, Dwarka determined that adoption of the Final Plan is not expected to generate any significant impacts and recommends that Ardsley issue a negative declaration of the Final Plan's environmental impacts under SEQRA and proceed with its adoption, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Ardsley, having declared its intent to serve as Lead Agency, and having served notice of such intent to all interested and involved agencies, boards and commissions, and there being no objection, and the requisite time having expired, now hereby declares itself Lead Agency for the purpose of conducting an environmental review of the Final Plan in accordance with SEQR, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ardsley, having conducted the required environmental review, retained the services of a professional environmental consultant and considered his recommendation, and having filed and considered the three parts associated with the full Environmental Form, and taken a hard look at all environmental considerations, issues a Negative Declaration of the environmental impacts of the Final Plan under SEQR and may proceed with its adoption, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ardsley, having completed all required environmental reviews, and being in compliance with all mandated legislative procedures, hereby adopts and enacts as a local law the proposed Final Comprehensive Plan

## **8. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **8.1 Consider a Resolution Scheduling a Public Hearing - Tax Override for Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

**Moved by Trustee D'Emilio, Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously. RESOLVED** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby schedules a public hearing on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 8:15 p.m. to consider a resolution to override the property tax levy for fiscal year 2021-2022.

### **Section 1. Legislative Intent**

It is the intent of this local law to allow the Village of Ardsley to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

### **Section 2. Authority**

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government’s governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

### **Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override**

The Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Ardsley, County of Westchester, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

### **Section 4. Severability**

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court’s order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

### **Section 5. Effective date**

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State by the Village Clerk.

8.2 Consider a Resolution for Clean Energy Community/Climate Smart Community Coordinator

**Moved by Trustee Edelstein, Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Ardsley Board of Trustees recognizes that the climate crisis poses a real and increasing threat to both local and global environments, specifically through the burning of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, the negative effects of climate change will threaten our economy, infrastructure, and society; damage our ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce our drinking water supplies and land resources, and threaten the health of our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an opportunity to save money while building livable, secure, and significantly reduced fossil

fuel consumption across our community, innovative and flexible economies, healthy and safe schools, and a more resilient infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that the scale of greenhouse gas emissions required for climate stabilization will require extensive and continuous efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that communities will be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Village of Ardsley, to enhance in these efforts, hereby appoints CEAC member Asha Bencosme as "Climate Smart Community Coordinator" to assist the Village Board of Trustees and staff in achieving program goals. Through the Village Manager, the Climate Smart Community Coordinator will assist in the CEC/CSC process by the following:

- Document information on energy use in municipal operations to explore areas with energy-saving potential.
- Contribute to the update of the community greenhouse gas (GHG) measurements.
- Use comprehensive planning and land use tools consistently address climate change and sustainability issues.
- Support planned projects or large purchases within local government to integrate energy conservation and/or waste reduction practices and follow Village policies designed to reduce GHGs (e.g. purchasing equipment/vehicles, building new facilities, initiating municipal planning or capital improvement projects).
- Provide necessary input for municipal proposals to secure funding and/or technical assistance and other resources to assist with GHG-reduction projects.
- Propose resolutions to implement GHG reductions and adaptation measures.
- The CSCC shall report directly to the Village Manager.

8.3 Consider a Resolution to Establish Community/Climate Smart Communities (CEC/CSC) Task Force

**Moved by Trustee Edelstein, Seconded by Trustee D'Emilio and passed unanimously.**  
**WHEREAS**, the Village of Ardsley, New York, formally adopted a "Climate Smart Communities" Pledge on February 1, 2010, recognizing the threat of the climate crisis to our Village operations, citizens, and the planet and outlining initial steps that should be taken to mitigate this threat, increase energy efficiency, and build resilience and sustainability in our Village, and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Ardsley, New York, formally adopted a resolution towards accomplishing the goals of a Climate Smart Community on April 6, 2010, be it;

**RESOLVED**, the Village Board of Trustees hereby creates a task force which shall be known as the "Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities Task Force" hereinafter called the "CEC/CSC Task Force," and be it further;

**RESOLVED**, that the CEC/CSC Task Force shall be constituted as specified by the following Terms of Reference:

Terms of Reference  
Climate Smart Communities Task Force

Membership; terms of office; vacancies.

- A. While the number of members of the CEC/CSC Task Force may change over time, depending upon needs and work demand, it will start with three or more members who must be residents of the Village of Ardsley.
  - a. The liaison from the Village Board of Trustees to the Conservation & Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) shall be responsible for maintaining a collaborative relationship between the CEC/CSC Task Force and the Village Board of Trustees.
  - b. The Village Manager and/or his/her designee will collaborate and participate in the CEC/CSC Task Force, as necessary.
  - c. At least one representative from the CEAC, appointed in such manner as the CEAC shall determine.
  - d. Up to two additional appointees, who live in the Village of Ardsley, may be appointed by the Village Board of Trustees based on their experience in the field and availability to participate in the CEC/CSC Task Force.
  - e. A Chair shall be appointed by the Mayor from among these members.
- B. The term of office of CEC/CSC Task Force members shall be three years. The terms will be initiated at the February 1, 2021 Village Board of Trustees meeting and extended at the discretion of the Board of Trustees Reorganization Meeting.
- C. When a member's term ends, he or she may remain on the CEC/CSC Task Force until such time as a replacement is appointed, and may be reappointed for another three-year term at the discretion of his/her appointing authority.
- D. Vacancies on the CEC/CSC Task Force shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment, except that a vacancy occurring other than by the expiration of term of office shall be filled only for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- E. The Supervisor of Recreation, the General Foreman of the Department of Public Works, the Building Inspector, and the Village Clerk shall be available to assist the CSC Task Force with the prior approval of the Village Manager.
- F. The CEC/CSC Task Force may also seek input from the Chair of the Village's Planning Board, and from such individuals with expertise in sustainability and GHG reduction from other agencies and organizations in the region on an as-needed basis. These requests shall be coordinated through the Village Manager.

Officers; rules; records; meeting schedule.

- A. The Chair shall preside over all official meetings of the CEC/CSC Task Force.
- B. Agendas and records of all meetings shall be kept and filed with the Village Clerk.
- C. A meeting schedule shall be established by the Chair and all meetings shall be posted on the Village website and be open to the public.

Powers and duties.

The powers and duties of the CEC/CSC Task Force shall be through the Village Manager and shall include the following:

- A. use the NY State DEC Climate Smart Communities Pledge Elements to prioritize suggested actions that may be undertaken by the Village government and residents such that the GHG impacts are maximized to the greatest extent achievable.
- B. recommend the prioritized actions to the Village Manager and/or Village Board of Trustees for approval.
- C. plan actions approved by the Village Board of Trustees for decreasing electricity and fossil fuel energy demand consistent with the Climate Smart Communities pledge, with the goal of achieving increasing levels of Clean Energy Community and Climate Smart Community certification. Final plans are subject to approval by the Village Board of Trustees.
- D. gather data, inventory GHG emissions, and establish baselines for local government operations and community sectors. Develop quantifiable interim GHG emission targets consistent with emission reduction goals and propose a schedule and financing strategy to meet them.
- E. solicit stakeholder and public input on proposed action plans through open meetings and special workshops.
- F. seek to coordinate, assist, and unify the efforts of private groups, institutions, and individuals within the Village of Ardsley in accordance with the goal of achieving increasing levels of certifications.
- G. work collaboratively with similar task forces in neighboring communities to ensure that efforts complement and reinforce one another.
- H. carry out such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Village Manager, Mayor or by resolution of the Village Board of Trustees, as it relates to efforts in mitigating the climate crisis.

Reports to the Mayor and the Village Board of Trustees.

The CEC/CSC Task Force shall maintain ongoing communication with the Mayor, Village Board of Trustees and, Village Manager or designee. Annually the CEC/CSC Task Force shall submit a written report to the Village Board of Trustees outlining its activities over the past year and goals for the next year.

Compensation and expenses of members.

The members of the CEC/CSC Task Force shall receive no compensation for their service as members.

CEC/CSC Task Force Sunset Clause

The CEC/CSC Task Force has no termination date. It can be terminated at any time by the Village Board of Trustees.

Appointments concurrent with this resolution are:

- Asha Bencosme
- Eda Kapsis
- Dave Lew
- Carol Sommerfield
- Village Manager or designee of Village Manager

#### 8.4 Consider a Resolution for Low-Embodied Carbon Concrete (LECC) for Building and Infrastructure Projects in the Village of Ardsley

**Moved by Trustee DiJusto, Seconded by Trustee Weitz and passed unanimously.**  
**WHEREAS**, there is scientific consensus regarding the reality of climate change and recognition that the emission of greenhouse gasses from human activity and the construction of the built environment are significant drivers of climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, an intergovernmental body of the United Nations that is dedicated to providing the world with an objective, scientific view of climate change, reported in 2013 that the last 30 years were the warmest since 1850 and likely the warmest in the past 1,400 years, and that the current decade is set to be the hottest on record; that carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide levels are at their highest levels in 800,000 years; and that global mean sea level rose 0.62 feet from 1901 to 2010 and continues to rise; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Ardsley is committed to the Paris Climate Agreement and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy, and adopted the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, to implement policies and undertake all possible measures to reduce its contribution to human caused climate change, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, embodied carbon refers to the carbon emissions generated as a result of the manufacturing and transportation of materials and the construction of building and infrastructure projects; and

**WHEREAS**, concrete is the most widely used construction material in the world because of its low cost, strength, and durability, among other factors, and is a significant component of all building and infrastructure projects, including those of municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, cement, the critical ingredient that gives the concrete its strength, is responsible for up to seven percent of the world's carbon dioxide emissions, mainly through a chemical process called calcination, as well as through the use of energy in production derived from the combustion of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, low-embodied carbon concrete is defined as concrete that has been verified, as measured by a Global Warming Potential (GWP) metric, to embody lower carbon emissions as compared to the baseline embodied carbon emissions of conventional concrete; and

**WHEREAS**, lowering the embodied carbon emissions from concrete can be achieved through diverse methods and processes, including but not limited to: (A) using less cement in concrete mixes; (B) replacing or substituting cement with supplemental cementitious materials (SCMs) such as fly ash, blast furnace slag, or ground glass pozzolan; (C) using



locally produced cement and other concrete components resulting in reduced emissions from transport; (D) the utilization and mineralization of carbon in concrete materials; and

**WHEREAS**, the quality of concrete may be improved through these techniques, the cost compared to traditional methods is offset by lower materials cost, and the use of low-embodied concrete is established in the construction sector and has been successfully utilized for the construction of building and infrastructure projects by several municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual benefits of the use of this concrete in New York State, if universally adopted would be the equivalent to the carbon sequestration for tens of thousands of acres of preserved forest; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Ardsley has the opportunity to be a leader in New York State in promoting the use of this technology; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Village of Ardsley encourages, and will work to promote, the use of low embodied carbon concrete products in building and infrastructure projects involving concrete, where the utilization of low embodied carbon concrete does not significantly increase the costs of or delay project completion, and where utilization does not compromise either construction integrity or public safety. Such promotion could include, but may not be limited to, identifying local low embodied carbon concrete product options, making embodied carbon concrete educational materials more accessible, recognizing local projects utilizing low embodied carbon concrete products, and sharing Ardsley's program successes and lessons learned with other towns and local governments in the state and region.

## **9. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

- 10.1 **RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley Hereby adjourns the regular meeting of Monday, February 1, 2021 at 9:22 p.m. **Moved by Trustee Weitz and Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.**

## **11. NEXT BOARD MEETINGS:** Board of Trustees Work Session Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Tuesday, February 16, 2021

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Village Clerk, Ann Marie Rocco

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Date: