# VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020

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 Clerk Ann Marie Rocco

# 8:15 p.m. PUBLIC HEARING

Continuation of 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-** Mayor Kaboolian asked we remain standing for a moment of silence for the 743 souls we have lost due to COVID-19 since March 1, 2020.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting – Monday, April 6, 2020

**Trustee DiJusto: RESOLVED,** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, April 6, 2020 as submitted. **Seconded by Trustee Yager and passed unanimously.** 

# IV. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

**LEGAL REPORT:** Village Attorney Robert Ponzini stated there is nothing to report and has been working with staff on various ongoing items with staff.

# MANAGER'S REPORT - 04/20/2020

Manager Robson did not have a separate report to provide.

Mayor Kaboolian stated the following:

- We did re-issue the State of Emergency since the last one expired after 30 days. Governor Cuomo extended our New York State pause until May 15, 2020.
- 9A is being repaved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Village Treasurer, Leslie Tillotson read the Treasurer's Report for April 20, 2020:

Village Treasurer, Leslie Tillotson stated the bills for the past two weeks totaled as follows: From the General Fund: \$193,793.85; from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$2,108.58 and from the Capital Fund: \$225.00

**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: \$193,793.85 from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$2,108.58 and from the Capital Fund: \$225.00. **Seconded by Trustee D'Emilio and passed unanimously.** 

**ASVAC REPORT:** ASVAC Captain Greg Khitrov provided the Board with the March 2020 ASVAC report.

- Extended his thanks for the volunteers at ASVAC, Police, Fire Departments and Village Administration.
- 73 Calls
- 42 Calls for Assisted Living
- Started a tele-triage
- Thanked those who donated PPE
- Treat every call as a COVID-19 call
- Ambulances are disinfected after every call
- Members over 60 and junior members are not riding during the pandemic.
- During pandemic family members are not allowed to come in the ambulance with the patient.
- ASVAC website has been updated with COVID-19 information.
- Member training has continued to continue to stay informed.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Police Chief Patrick Lindsay provided the Board with the March 2020 Fire Department report:

- 3/3/2020- Participated in joint training with the Dobbs Ferry Department on vehicle extrication.
- 3/17/20202- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic all meetings, drills, and activities for Fire Department have been cancelled until further notice.
- 3/25/2020 Chief's Lindsay, Murray& Mancini participated in Battalion 14 teleconference meeting.

• 21 Calls for the month of March.

Chief Lindsay explained that the Fire Department is open and they are responding to all the calls but the response time is a little different since they will need to know if residents have been exposed to COVID-19 prior to entering the house.

# POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Police Chief, Anthony Piccolino read the following March 2020 Police Report:

- Property Lost or Stolen \$897.04
- Property Recovered \$0
- Court fines & fees-\$0
- Alarm fines & fees \$160
- Meter collection- \$1,920.35
- 78 Parking summonses issued
- 12 UTT summonses issued
- 1 Appearance ticket issued
- 91 Summonses issued

#### **TRAINING:**

- Total training for the month of March – 128 hours.

#### **COMMUNITY POLICING:**

Due to the current Coronavirus epidemic community policing officers have been reassigned to patrol duties.

### **COMMUNITY INFORMATION:**

Our country is experiencing an unprecedented pandemic. Our residents are being asked to say home and to practice social distancing. This is not something we're use to or have ever experienced. It's times like this when the true spirit of humanity shines. Neighbors checking on neighbors and parents finding ways to educate and entertain their children.

Our Police Officers and first responders are here to support you and respond to your needs. If you call the police department for service please notify the dispatcher if you or anyone in the household are experiencing any virus symptoms in order to protect our officers and first responders.

During the state of emergency, our department will accept complaints and file reports by phone whenever possible.

Our hearts go out to those who have been infected with this virus and to the families of those we lost. We stand together with you and will support you in any way we can.

Stay strong. We will get through this together.

# **CORONAVIRUS 2019:**

# Prevention:

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventative actions to help the spread of respiratory disease including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose & mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.

In light of new data about how COVID-19 spreads, along with evidence of widespread COVID-19 illness in communities across the country, CDC recommends that people wear a cloth face covering to cover their nose and mouth in the community setting. This is an additional public health measure people should take to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in addition to (not instead of) social distancing, frequent hand cleaning and other everyday preventive actions. A cloth face covering is not intended to protect the wearer, but may prevent the spread of virus from the wearer to others. This would be especially important in the event that someone is infected but does not have symptoms. A cloth face covering should be worn whenever people must go into public settings (grocery stores, for example). Medical masks such as N-95 respirators are reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
  - -If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

For information about handwashing, see CDC's Handwashing website: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/index.html</a>

For information specific to healthcare, see CDC's Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings: https://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/index.html

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have specific guidance for travelers.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html

For more information, please visit the CDC website at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html

Chief Piccolino also thanked Village Manager Robson for all her efforts with getting the supplies that are needed for the first responders.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Building Inspector Larry Tomasso provided the Board with the March 2020 Building Department report.

- 5 Building permits
- 9 Application fees
- 8 Certificates of Occupancy
- 2 Plumbing permits
- 3 Electrical permits
- 11 Title Search & Letters of Compliance
- Total revenue \$3,475.50
- 64 Building Inspection
- 10 Zoning Inspections
- 3 Fire Inspections
- 1 Violation notice
- 1 Warning notice

Trustee Yager asked if the Mr. Tomasso could give any updates regarding the gas station on Saw Mill River Rd. and 3 American Legion.

# Mr. Tomasso stated that:

- 3 American Legion did obtain their demolition permit but currently they are on hold.
- Gas Station on Saw Mill River Rd- remediation has been completed and we expect to see their site plan application this month.

#### **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Kaboolian announced the following:

- We continue to sit on conference calls 3 days per week with the County.
- The Governor has extended New York pause until May 15, 2020
- County Executive Latimer stated that we have begun to see a flattening of the curve.
- State of the County address that was scheduled for Wednesday night has been postponed.
- The State is looking for plasma donations.

#### TRUSTEE DIJUSTO:

Trustee DiJusto thanked everyone who is trying to help out in the Village by wearing masks and gloves.

#### TRUSTEE YAGER:

Nothing to report

# TRUSTEE D'EMILIO:

Trustee D'Emilio announced the following:

 SAYF Coalition will be hosting homework helper via video conference and the social workers will also be doing a video conference teaching mindfulness and coping skills techniques.

#### TRUSTEE EDELSTEIN:

Nothing to report.

# **VISITORS:**

Village Manager Robson provided synopsis regarding the 2020-2021 Budget:

- Reduced the expenditures approximately \$400,000
- We are using \$200,000 of our debt reserve to help with the tax rate.
- Pushing off some capital projects to future years.
- Keeping revenues the same.
- Our current tax rate is at 9.99. If the Budget passes tonight it will bring the tax rate to 9.94.

The Board also discussed grant money for updating the bathrooms at Pascone Park. All members of the Board were in agreement with this.

Gary Rappaport had the following questions regarding the budget via email:

Is the sewer fund new? Yes.

Is it a new tax? It is a user fee that will cover costs that were and would be paid for through the general fund and therefore, just taxpayers. The user fee will be paid by all users of the collection system, which broadens the base.

Line item? Do you mean line item for sewer? It is its own fund. Now not part of the general fund. I remember an email and it's a good idea but there was not much after that

What fund is \$200k item coming from?

Do you mean the \$200K from the debt reserve on the front page? The debt reserve is a restricted part of our fund balance.

Is this essentially a no growth budget? The tax rate the Board has discussed since the Tentative Budget was released (and things got crazy with the virus) is actually less than the current year. Current is 9.99 and the one I believe the Board will vote on and approve tomorrow is 9.94.

**Trustee D'Emilio:** RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby closes 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 at 9:00 p.m. **Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously.** 

#### VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider a Resolution to Adopt the 2020-2021 Village Budget

# RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2020-2021 VILLAGE BUDGET

**Trustee Edelstein: RESOLVED,** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby adopts the 2020-2021 Village Budget, effective June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021 which includes amendments the Front Page Budget Summary and capital plan funding, made part of the 2020-2021 Tentative Budget. **Seconded by Trustee D'Emilio and passed unanimously.** 

#### VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Legal Advice

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

**Trustee DiJusto: RESOLVED,** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley Hereby adjourns the regular meeting of Monday, April 20, 2020, at 9:02 p.m. **Seconded by Trustee Yager and passed unanimously.** 

X. NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING: Monday, May 4, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Rocco Village Clerk