

Deputy Mayor Porcino opened the February 3, 2011 Regular Meeting at    p.m.

Present:	Deputy Mayor/Trustee	Peter Porcino
	Trustee	Larry J. Nardecchia
	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:	Mayor	Jay Leon

Deputy Mayor Porcino chaired the meeting in the absence of Mayor Leon.

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Deputy Mayor Porcino swore in new volunteer fire fighter, Robert Mancini.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXIT SIGNS**

Deputy Mayor Porcino requested that Mr. Calvi have the Exit Sign light replaced.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Tr. Malone: Resolved**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting January 18, 2011 as submitted. **Seconded by Tr. Levine and passed unanimously.**

**IV. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**LEGAL REPORT:** Attorney Ponzini had nothing to report but mentioned that he would be available should an Executive Session be necessary.

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

The bills from the General Fund for the past two weeks total \$266,190.85; from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$70 and from the Capital Fund: \$0.

**Tr. Nardecchia: Resolved**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Treasurer to make the following payments: From the General Fund: \$266,190.85 and from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$70. **Seconded by Tr. Malone and passed unanimously.**

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

**VILLAGE MANAGER REPORT  
PREPARED BY GEORGE F. CALVI  
FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2011**

**HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE:** Residents are reminded that Village offices will be closed Friday, February 11, 2011 in observance of the birthday of our 16th president Abraham Lincoln. There will be a double pickup of trash on Thursday, February 10 which means that all sectors of the Village will be collected that day, unless of course, we have yet another snow storm, and we will reshuffle the deck again! In the event of that occurrence, however, please call the DPW garage at 693-0117, and of course, we will leave a message on Constant Contact for all our subscribers.

**GRIEVANCE NIGHT:** Residents are reminded 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 tentative assessment roll which covers tax year 2011-2012 was filed in the office of the Village Clerk by the Village Assessor on February 1 where it is available for public inspection.

**SPECIAL ELECTION:** February 15 is also the date for a special election for County Legislator. Owing to the election of County Legislator Tom Abinanti to State Assemblyman in November, a slot needs to be filled for the 12th Legislative District which includes Ardsley, Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, and a portion of the unincorporated Town of Greenburgh. The polls will be open from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm at the Ardsley Community Center and St. Barnabas Episcopal Church. The election is not being handled by the Ardsley Village Clerk's office. Please direct any and all questions regarding this election to the County Board of Elections at 995-5700. This is a contested election so it is very important that you get out and vote!

**BOIL WATER ALERT:** Please be advised that the "boil water alert" distributed in the media this past Monday did not apply to the Village of Ardsley. The "boil water alert" was limited to the Villages of Irvington, Tarrytown, Elmsford, Sleepy Hollow, and Briarcliff Manor, and the hamlets of Valhalla, Thornwood, and Hawthorne in the Town of Mount Pleasant. These are all communities which operate their own public water distribution systems. The "alert" for Irvington and the Grasslands portion of Valhalla was lifted late Monday afternoon, and was lifted for everyone else yesterday. The drinking water needs of Ardsley, along with Hastings and Dobbs Ferry, are provided by the private company, United Water - Suez, whose product was not subjected to the "boil water alert." Had the Village of Ardsley been included in any such alert notice would have been distributed via our website,

the electronic bulletin board, and Constant Contact, once again, proving how important it is to subscribe to this free village wide notification service. This morning it was posed to me as to why Ardsley and the other communities serviced by United Water were not included. In speaking with Lynda DiMenna at United Water, the company also discovered turbidity in the system last Friday from its water source at the Catskill Aqueduct. However, as you know United Water provides service to a wide swath of communities through southern Westchester and also obtains its water from the Delaware Aqueduct. Upon detecting the turbidity, at 4:00 pm last Friday it switched all its drawing capacity from the Catskill to the unaffected Delaware aqueduct, and thus avoided the “boil water” alert. Unfortunately, this was not an option for the individual municipally operated water systems up county.

**RIDGE HILL PRESENTATION:** Later this evening at 9:00 pm, there will be a public information hearing for the purpose of presenting proposals for various Route 9A and Ashford Avenue traffic improvements made possible by funds from the Ridge Hill settlement. For our viewers at home it might make life easier if you log on to our website and hit the Ridge Hill link on the homepage so that you can get a better look at the plan proposals as Mr. Michael Maris, our consultant makes his presentations. Our website is [www.ardslevillage.com](http://www.ardslevillage.com).

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS:** Last but not least, I would like to thank all our residents who have made special efforts to assist our Highway Department by not throwing snow into the street as they shoveled themselves out, by assisting our Police Department so they didn’t have to issue tickets to those who parked within 30 feet of a street corner thus impeding access to our snow plows, and by assisting the Fire Department in shoveling out the fire hydrants buried in the recurring snows. And in case you missed the message between the lines, I will repeat it: **PLEASE DO NOT SHOVEL SNOW IN THE STREET. DO NOT ALLOW YOUR HIRED SNOW PLOW GUY TO PLOW THE SNOW FROM YOUR DRIVEWAY INTO THE STREET. DO NOT PARK WITHIN 30 FEET OF A CORNER PARTICULARLY ON SOME OF THE NARROW DEAD END STREETS OTHERWISE THE SNOW PLOW WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCESS IT. DO NOT BURY YOUR HYDRANT WHEN YOU DIG OUT YOUR DRIVEWAY.** Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

**ALARM & OVERNIGHT PARKING PERMITS:** These two permits expired on December 31, 2010, and the grace period is long over. If the Police Department discovers you have not renewed you will be fined. However, if contact the Police Desk at 693-1700 over the next few days to renew those permits you could avoid the fines. Again, that number is 693-1700.

**DOBBS FERRY PARKING PERMITS:** I am three quarters of the way in completing the renewals for the Dobbs Ferry train station parking permits for

the February 15 through August 15 term, and I may have a surplus of one or two. If any bona fide Ardsley Village resident is interested, kindly call my office at 693-1550 x117 as soon as possible. The permits are \$462.50 for a six month period. Regretfully, people with Ardsley addresses outside the corporate boundaries of the Village are not eligible.

**LOCAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS:** This month we received two conflicting economic indicators. Our share of the county sales tax for the last quarter arrived early this week in the amount of \$141,919. This is the third quarter in a row that we are approaching pre-2008 levels which indicates some people in the County are spending again. On the other hand, the tonnage of trash being collected in the Village and shipped to Croton Point has dropped precipitously by about 120 tons for the fourth straight year in a row. I would like to think that recycling has picked up tremendously. However, I suspect that consumption in this Village is still down, and people are still not spending and generating as much trash as they did prior to 2008. I'll let you draw your own conclusions.

And with that I wish you all a Happy Chinese New Year!

Deputy Mayor Porcino questioned Mr. Calvi as to when the decision is made regarding trash/recycling pick up versus plowing. Mr. Calvi responded that it generally gets decided some time mid-morning of the storm.

**DEPUTY MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**V. COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS:**

**Deputy Mayor Porcino:**

- 1) Thanks were extended to the DPW, Rick Thompson and the crew for their work during the recent storms.
- 2) The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be February 15, 2011. Grievance Night begins at 5:00 p.m. and runs until 9:00 p.m. Grievance may be submitted on paper. Attendance is suggested, but is not mandatory.
- 3) A Special Election will take place on February 15<sup>th</sup> to replace Tom Abinanti, County Legislator.
- 4) Attended the Regular Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee.
- 5) Met with the TPPS Committee members to go over the Ridge Hill drawings. The TPPS compiled a list of 23 questions.
- 6) Attended the Regular Meeting of the SAYF Coalition.
- 7) Attended the Water Wheel Work Session.
- 8) Attended the Regular Meeting of the Library Board.
- 9) Attended the Regular Meeting of the Youth Council.

**Tr. Nardecchia:**

- 1) Attended the Waterwheel Work Session.
- 2) The Seniors programs have been cancelled since Christmas due to the weather.
- 3) The Recreation Commission will meet next Tuesday.
- 4) The value of the salt shed has been realized this Winter due to the large storms.

**Tr. Malone:**

- 1) Nothing to report.

**Tr. Levine:**

- 1) Nothing to report.

**8:30 P.M. – CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING** – To approve the request to convert the vacant retail/office space into a dog day care facility at 609 Saw Mill River Road – **To be adjourned until 3/7/11.**

**Tr. Malone: Resolved,** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby adjourns the hearing regarding the request to convert the vacant retail/office space located at 609 Saw Mill River Road, into doggie day care facility to March 7, 2011 at 8:30 p.m. **Seconded by Tr. Levine and passed unanimously.**

**VI. VISITOR'S**

Ms. Patricia Hoffman, 69 Bramblebrook Road, Ardsley, NY presented herself to the Board to discuss grievance night and the manner in which the Village handles such grievances.

Ms. Hoffman requested that the Board of Assessors use the State issued RAR of 2.89 as determined by the New York State ORPS office for 2011. Since any grievance which goes to SCAR (Small Claims Assessment Review), the number which is used there is the State issued RAR. It would make sense for the Village to use the same number.

Ms. Hoffman stated that in 2009 the State Court denied an application which requested that a number other than the RAR could be used during the grievances. In 2010, the State courts used the State RAR. Therefore, there is no reason to believe that the Village should be using anything other than the State RAR, which is 2.89 this year.

Ms. Hoffman believes that if the Village uses anything other than the 2.89, all individuals will receive the benefit of the 2.89 if they take the grievance as far as the courts.

Ms. Hoffman stated that she believes that the cost of the assessment process could be reduced if the 2.89 RAR, or whatever it happens to be in any given year, was used by the Village.

Additionally, Ms. Hoffman requested the Board of Assessors notify the public of whatever RAR is being used.

Finally, Ms. Hoffman requested that the follow up letter which the Village sends to individuals regarding their grievance should contain the figures which were used to determine the outcome of their grievance.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING –  
RIVER DALE DOG, LLC,  
609 SAW MILL RIVER ROAD**

**Tr. Malone: Resolved**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby adjourns the hearing regarding the request to convert the vacant retail/office space located at 609 Saw Mill River Road, into doggie day care facility to March 7, 2011 at 8:30 p.m.  
**Seconded by Tr. Levine and passed unanimously.**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**BRIEF PRESENTATION REGARDING  
2011 CONVENTION PARADE  
BY FIREFIGHTER RICHIE SCOTT**

Firefighter Richie Scott presented himself to the Board and explained that this year is the 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fire Department of Ardsley. In recognition of this anniversary, the Ardsley Fire Department will host the 2011 Westchester County Volunteer Firefighter Parade in Ardsley from September 15-17, 2011.

There will be a convention on Thursday night for all of the firefighters in the County including dinner and a presentation. On Friday night, there will be an open house at the Fire House. On Saturday, there will be a parade which will include approximately 38 fire departments from throughout the County.

Route 9A will need to be closed from approximately 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The parade will run from Heatherdell to Ashford Park. The parade will run approximately 2-1/2 hours.

A standby company will assist the fire department in the event of any emergencies during the parade.

The schools will be contact to avoid conflicts. The Westchester County Sheriffs and Greenburgh will act as volunteers and Ardsley police will assist with the road closures.

Deputy Mayor Porcino wished Patrick Lindsay a speedy recovery as he is currently under the weather.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MANAGER TO SIGN IMA REGARDING  
STORM DRAIN MAPPING GRANT**

Lorraine Kuhn presented herself to the Board and discussed the new NY State DEC Water Quality Improvement Program Grant.

**Tr. Levine: Resolved,** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Manager to sign an inter-municipal agreement with the Villages of Sleepy Hollow, Bronxville, Elmsford, Hastings-on-Hudson, Irvington, Pelham, Pelham Manor, Port Chester, and Rye Brook; the Towns of Ossining, Eastchester, and Mount Pleasant; and the Cities of Peekskill and Rye which have formed a consortium known as the Sleepy Hollow Consortium to cooperatively work on the process of applying for and implementing a grant program associated with MS4 Phase II Storm Water Management projects. The term of such agreement is retroactive to December 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012. The local match for the Village of Ardsley has been established at \$2,470.00 which can be satisfied with the documentation of in-kind services. This grant is specifically intended to cover the cost of storm drain mapping. **Seconded by Tr. Malone and passed unanimously.**

Note: Sleepy Hollow is the lead agent in this venture. The total cost of the project is \$287,164 of which the state is providing \$210,000. Storm Water Assistant, Lorrain Kuhn, will be on hand Tuesday evening to expound on this IMA.

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING STANDARD WORK DAY OF VILLAGE  
JUSTICE AND VILLAGE ATTORNEY**

**Tr. Nardecchia: Resolved,** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees Retirement System based on the time keeping record of activities maintained and submitted by the officials to the Village Treasurer;

**Be it further resolved,** that the standard work day for the Village Justice and the Village Attorney is six hours;

**Be it further resolved**, that the expiration of the term of the Village Justice is December 1, 2014, and the expiration of the term of the Village Attorney is December 5, 2011;

**Be it further resolved**, that this resolution will be maintained on the Village website for a minimum of 90 days. **Seconded by Tr. Levine and passed unanimously.**

Note: In order to establish these standard work days the Village Justice and the Village Attorney submitted three month logs to the Village Treasurer of their activities.

Note: A standard work day of 6 hours does not mean they actually work six hours every day. Rather what it means is that for reporting purposes the actual number of days logged is divided by the established standard work day and that dividend is what they actually receive as credit. For example in the Judge's case, the actual days reported to the state retirement system is 5.2 days per month, based on the formula.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF THE  
VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER SERVICE AWARD LIST FOR 2010**

**Tr. Malone: WHEREAS**, in 1991 the Village of Ardsley established a Volunteer Fire Fighters Service Award Program, and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of a participating volunteer fire company to maintain all required records on forms prescribed by the governing board of Ardsley Village, and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with General Municipal Law, Article 11-A, Service Award Programs, Section 219-a.2.d, Ardsley Engine Company No.1 has furnished the Village Board of Trustees a list, certified under oath, identifying those volunteer members who have qualified for credit under the award program for calendar year 2010, and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board of Trustees has reviewed the list of Ardsley Engine Company No.1,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of Trustees hereby approves the annual certification of the service award list for 2010 and that the approved list of certified members be returned to Ardsley Engine Company No.1 and posted for at least 30 days for review by the membership.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of the list be forwarded to the firm of Hometown / Richard Schmidt & Associates, 5 Orville Drive – Suite 400, Bohemia, New York 11716, c/o Gene Heeter, Sr. **Seconded by Tr. Levine and passed unanimously.**

NOTE: In addition to the Engine Company, a copy is to be placed on file in the Village Manager's office and the original is to be placed on permanent file in the Village Clerk's office.



Deputy Mayor Porcino acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report of Uncollected Taxes and mentioned that the deadline for the payment of taxes was January 3, 2011. Deputy Mayor Porcino urged those residents who have not yet paid their taxes to do so immediately.

**9:00 P.M. – PUBLIC INFORMATION HEARING** – For the purpose of having Michael Maris Associates present proposals for various traffic improvements [PHASE ONE] made possible by funds from the Ridge Hill Settlement.

Mr. Thomas Madden, Commission of Community Development and Conservation for the Town of Greenburgh presented himself to the Board.

Mr. Madden explained that the development of Ridge Hill was approved by the City of Yonkers and as part of the SEQRA process, the Village of Ardsley, the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson and the Town of Greenburgh sued Forrest City Ratner and the City of Yonkers for the determination in relation to the traffic that was projected from the Ridge Hill site. The municipalities felt that the analysis was incorrect. The judge agreed with the municipalities and they were awarded \$5 million. This award was to be used to study twelve intersections surrounding the area. An RFP was issued, Michael Maris and Associates reviewed the concepts, including the Ashford Avenue intersection as well as the Saw Mill River Road intersection through Ardsley.

The Ridge Hill Intersection Committee is composed of members from Hastings, Ardsley and Greenburgh. Several concepts were developed and they have been narrowed down to four projects which have combined into two projects.

The first project is the "S" curve in front of Sprain Ridge Park. The road is proposed to be straightened out, with a "T" intersection for North Sprain and Jackson Avenues. The second plan is in conjunction with the County redevelopment of the Ashford Avenue intersection and Saw Mill River Road.

Mr. Michael Maris was presented to the Board and explained that as of 2009 the plans proposed a third lane be added to Saw Mill River Road. The proposal called for an additional lane to be added on the southbound side of the road. The traffic committee suggested using the center land for alternate left turns.

Since that time, 10-15 Committee meetings have been held and two things became apparent during these meetings. One was that the access to Addyman Square was an issue. As a result, the project was split into two sections; one section was to do the third lane from the intersection as far north as possible and the section phase was the intersection improvements. This allowed for the design of the third lane.

Presently, the Committee is in a position to make a submission to the NY State Department of Transportation for their input. However, prior to so doing, the proposal is being presented to the residents of Ardsley for their input.

There are three pieces of land which will require right-of-ways. The land will need to be widened by approximately 3-4 feet on the east side of the roadway.

There is also a concept for the intersection which Mr. Maris stated he would be presenting, however, that has not been engineered as of this time. This will be for informational purposes only. Walter Lubrinecci, highway engineer, was present to answer technical questions.

Mr. Madden mentioned that as part of the settlement, there is a seven year maximum for completing this project or the money will be returned to the developer. Therefore, the improvements will need to be completed by August, 2014 and once the plans are submitted to the DOT, it will take approximately 1-1/2 years for their approval to be final.

Mr. Maris presented drawings of the proposed intersections and explained the concepts. Mr. Maris then opened the floor to questions regarding traffic issues, history, highway design, etc.

The following individuals posed questions/concerns which were addressed by Mr. Maris and Mr. Silverberg:

Deputy Mayor Porcino – The issues of the left hand turn lanes, the width of the sidewalks, the size of the area to be affected, the proposed parking space changes, and pedestrian concern with regard to the crosswalks were raised.

Mr. Frank Doherty, Ardsley resident and TPPS Committee member - The issue of a dual entrance into the gas station and the sidewalk issues were discussed.

Mr. Bernard Love, owner, Star Bagels and the organic cleaners property –Discussed the issue of one parking space being taken from the property.

Ms. Barbara Katz – owner, Star Bagels and the organic cleaners – Discussed the proposed parking spot removal and prior parking spot removals.

Andy DiJusto, 520 Ashford Avenue resident and Village merchant - Discussed the issue of the two southbound lanes on 9A.

Tr. Nardecchia – The northbound access to the parking lot of Colonial Park North was discussed.

Mr. Steve Wittenberg, Traffic Committee – Hash marks were discussed as was the possibility of having to change the paint on the turn lanes and the approval of the DOT for the changes to be made.

Ms. Patricia Hoffman, Traffic Committee – Discussed the southbound turn lanes and speed in the two southbound lanes. Also discussed the hash marks as well as the exit from Colonial Park. Additionally, the potential problem of having to repaint the turn lanes was discussed.

Mr. Robert Paley, Ardsley resident, addressed his concern with the pedestrian crosswalk at Center Street and stated he felt that it should be considered as part of the original design. He also requested that lighting be added to the crosswalk and suggested a second crosswalk be added south of Center Street.

There being no further comments, Mr. Maris stated that he would take a look at the suggestions made this evening and hopes to return with information on Phase II and present the final plans. He also mentioned that he was going to encourage the Committee to submit something to the DOT, even if it is not the final plan.

Mr. Calvi confirmed that an additional presentation would take place in September, 2011.

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:**

**Tr. Nardecchia: Resolved,** that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby adjourns the rescheduled meeting of Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 10:30 p.m. **Seconded by Tr. Levine and passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine McSpedon