

Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees
May 13, 2024 – DRAFT
Public Hearing Restore NY Round 8
7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich was held May 13, 2024, in the Board Room at 6 Academy St. Present were Mayor Hurley, Trustees: Robinson, Grimmke, Vandewater and Moore, as well as Sergeant Danko, Superintendent Smith, Chief Hopkins, Attorney Kelly and President Mumby. Mayor Hurley opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

7:00 pm Public Hearing on the Restore NY Round 8 Application

Devin Bulger from LaBella provided some background on the Empire State Development Grant. The 60 million set aside in this round's funding is down from prior years. The award amount for this area can go as high as 2 million, covering 50-90% of the project. This round is due May 22 with heavy competition expected. The application for 83-87 Main St which is a 4-unit building with 2 commercial spaces at ground level with 2 residential units above. The price tag for expected renovations is 170-200K depending on costs. Total project costs including purchase is 400k. Joe Landry from Empire State Development did a walk- through last Friday with the Mayor and Mark Samu, the owner. He classified it as a "small but safe" project. Mark Samu added that he will open a photo gallery offering classes in one of the retail spaces, and the other shop will remain Idleknot. Mayor Hurley asked for comments with none offered.

Motion to close the Public Hearing was so moved by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Moore, and carried by all.

Attorney Kelly and Mayor Hurley read the Short Environmental Assessment Form Parts 1 and 2.

Resolution No14 of 2024 in Support of Round 8 Restore NY for 83-85-87 Main St made on a motion by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.

Resolution No15 of 2024 Adopting a Negative Declaration for 83-85-87 Main St Renovation so moved by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.

Vouchers

General Fund Voucher numbers 510 – 553 totaling \$48,086.19

Water Fund Voucher numbers 92 – 104 totaling \$11,207.02

Sewer Fund Voucher numbers 72 – 80 totaling \$9,353.96

Capital Projects Fund Voucher numbers 39- 42 totaling \$356,020.28

Vouchers and Transfers were ordered paid by the Board on several motions by Trustee Vandewater, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Motion to approve draft meeting minutes from April 15, 2024, April 23, 2024, and April 30, 2024, was made by Trustee Robinson, seconded by Trustee Moore and carried by all.

Department Reports

Fire: Chief Hopkins delivered the April report: Total calls – 23 with 11 being inside our district. EMS calls – 20. Rescue extrication 0, fire 1, hazards 2, service calls 0, and 0 alarm activations. The rest were mutual aid to Middle Falls, Easton and Hebron, Argyle and White Creek totaling 12. Fire and Emergency response hours – 213.5, training hours 113 and activity – 241.5 for a total of 568 hours. Annual Fire and

Ladder Tests completed. FF Nick Marci is close to completing Interior Firefighting Operations class. Fed SAFER Grant and National Wildland Fire Grant is ongoing. The fire burn ban ends Wednesday. Sergeant Danko added the ban is lifted for recreational wood only, still no brush burning permitted.

Police: Sergeant Danko delivered the April report: There were 9 cases reported to the DCJS in December totaling 48 reported for the year. Arrests totaled 3; 21 arrests for the year. There were 120 calls logged with County Dispatch for the month. Calls for service for the year 2024 - 450. Incidents handled: criminal mischief of town picnic tables, trespass, assault, forcible touching/endangering welfare of a child, animal complaints, domestic disputes, mental health, unattended death, and custodial interference. 1 motor vehicle accident. Ptl Davis-Flynn is now a forensic interviewer, Ptl Nussbaum attended multiple trainings on conducting traffic stops with drug encounters as well as Active Shooter Training "Alert" level 1. One of our officers will be leaving us after 6 years, so we will be looking to replace him as soon as possible.

DPW: Superintendent Smith delivered the April report: normal work occurred along with installing Veterans Banners, reading water meters for billing and meeting with Union Village Festival Committee. Garbage cans are now out, along with little Fenway set-up. Preparations are underway for reopening of the splash pad. Considerable extra work has been required for the water project. The water tower road has been refilled from a washout and a drainage ditch is being excavated. Quotes for paving are being sought. Planters along Main Street were distributed today. Asking for Board approval for two part-time temporary hires. A full-time permanent position possessing a CDL is still open.

Youth: President Mumby delivered the April report: Number of youths attending – 168 due to startup of spring sports. with an average daily attendance of 12. Community collaborations included an Ukrainian egg painting, Council for Prevention, bike safety rodeo and Taylor Swift listening party with the library. A grant from the Mary McClellan Foundation is providing the Youth Center with an AED Defibrillator which can be placed in a central location. Deputy Fire Chief Smith added the main hall would be a good location.

Mayor: Mayor Hurley delivered the April report – **Onboarding** This Thursday I will be attending the NYCOM conference in Lake George and on Monday, May 20th I will be attending the DRI/NY Forward forum in Schenectady. **Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner** I attended the Chamber's annual dinner which was well attended. I met with the General Manager of Walmart who let me know they have a program to donate products to various local organizations and they were there to try and connect with groups and raise awareness of this program. **Aging in Community Pilot Program** - I met with Greenwich Village Resident, Barbara Price who is working on developing a project model that would aim to connect seniors with people and or services that will allow them to age in their home safely, support their wellbeing and improve social connections. She is also meeting with the Washington Department of Aging Supervisory Council and is developing a conversation series with the library on Aging in Community – starting June 12th to further the conversation and receiving feedback. **Hayes Reservoir** Jim Allen will be up in the next few weeks to grade and seed the area leading into Hayes Reservoir. There was a complaint of potential oil spill from logging equipment ECO Thibodeau visited the site with Superintendent Mike Smith. I confirmed with ECO Thibodeau today that there are no violations, the sheen that was noted was likely from decaying and decomposing organic material. Hayes Reservoir can be opened back up to the public. **Water Project** - We had our first progress calls for contract No. 2 and 1B. Both projects are on track and progressing as expected. The DOT has reached out requesting some adjustments to lane closure restrictions – we are looking at alternatives – such as lane shifts. B&L will host a call with NYSDOT to discuss in more detail. **Water Treatment Plant** - Organized an income survey

of just residents in the sewer district to leverage zero funding for the project through EFC. Letters have gone out and we will follow up with phone calls this week. Survey data is due to B&L by May 31st. If people have questions, they should call Jane Dowling the Village Clerk and she can assist or help you walk through the survey. **Greenwich Bike and Pedestrian Connectivity Improvements** I missed the meeting on April 25th. They are moving to a public launch of the plan as a next step – press release, interactive maps to share feedback, survey questions, etc. This was part of the comprehensive plan – where it was identified the need to improve pedestrian and bicycle access. The launch of the next phase is tentatively scheduled for next week. **EPA Grant for Phase 2 Assessment of the Dunbarton Mill Site** - Tomorrow, we have a call with the EPA to find out what the requirements will be for testing the soil. **Gardening and Planter Project** - Gardening group worked around the gazebo this past Tuesday and they plan on gardening every Tuesday at 6. The flags on the gazebo are frayed and Mike has ordered replacements. All 20 planters have been placed along Main Street – Thank you to Deb Anderson for leading the volunteer group, and to the DPW for bringing the vision to life! And of course, the time they will invest over the course of the summer watering the planters. **Restore NY Round 8** - Did a physical walk through of 83-87 Main Street with Joseph Landy from Empire State Development, Mark Samu (private developer), Donna Frank Moore and Devin Bulger (La Bella). This round is going to be much more competitive for funding, previous two years were \$100M and \$150M in funding, and this round is \$50M. We are still encouraged because it's a modest financial ask that has a great impact on the village core. **ZBA** Caitlin Vollmer and Zack Infante resigned from the ZBA due to Caitlin school conflicts and Zack has started a new job that will limit his evening availability. We are very much appreciative of their service and dedication. The board will now operate as a three-person board. **Veteran Banners** They are in the process of being displayed, a shout out to the DPW team for their time and effort hanging the banners, and Maria Robinson coordinating the program. Next Monday she is picking up the next round of banners for display by Memorial Day. We have received some requests for specific placement, and I wanted to share the reminder that we can't accept requests for placement.

New Business:

- **Resolution No16 of 2024 Approval of Expenditures for a Sidewalk Tractor out of DPW General Equipment, Water and Sewer Reserves, subject to Permissive Referendum** made on a motion by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.
- **Gazebo Painting Project** – Lisa Perkins along with Lynne Weygint from the Gazebo Committee spoke about the committee's decision to restore the current structure rather than tear it down, as the structure is sound. The long-term needs are replacing roof shingles, electrical, sound system, railing and flooring. Removing the lattice would reveal the handsome structure underneath. The first ask is permission to paint the structure white, which in their view, would make it stand out and give it a refresh. This could be started immediately in stages. Painting the face board under the roof, would be the first step. Lisa offered to purchase the paint and do the work and would gratefully accept help with both cost and work. This work can commence as soon as the Christmas lights come down, which the DPW will do.
- **Motion to approve painting** the gazebo made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Moore and carried by all. The Volunteers will be asked to sign a liability waiver agreement prior to starting any work.
- **Dorr Park Improvement** – Trustee Moore presented a powerpoint on the revitalization of the park; benches, fountain, sidewalk and plantings. The photos showed the disrepair of the fountain. The DPW and the volunteers can handle the scraping, painting and repair. A quote

from an electrician for this repair which includes the meter and the pole which is \$3800. The antique light pole has been dormant for decades, but this is a future project. A request from the gardeners is \$500.00 for flowers for this park.

- **Motion to allocate \$500** out of the beautification budget for flowers in Dorr Park so moved by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.
- **Resolution No17 of 2024 Authorize Police Retirement Plan from 25 years to 20 Years** so moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.

Old Business

- Animal Control Law review. Mayor Hurley would suggest certain animals such as pigs and goats and roosters be prohibited within Village limits. To be discussed further.
- **NYSLERS Reporting Resolution RS 2417-A.** Be it resolved the Village Board of Trustees, location code 40185 hereby established the following standard work days for those titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Retirement based on their record of activities: Willy Grimmke ROI result 2.05 hours.

Permits

- **Greenwich Free Library Park Permit** – Music at the Library 6/25, 7/23, 8/26, 9/23 with rain dates. Approved
- **Parade Permit to close Church St during Union Village Fest Friday, June 14.** Approved
- **Peddler Permit Day Pass pop-up vendor Jason Planitzer and Owl Pen Books 6.1.2024. at 99 Main St** Approved

Public Comment:

- Trustee Vandewater commented that conflicts with the Water Improvement Project and bus schedules with summer programs and bus routes through the end of the year. Superintendent Smith with coordinate with the bus garage.
- Artie Erbe asked about any complaints or regulations regarding the Amish doing construction and contracting work within Village limits. The Board answered that there were no specific regulations regarding the Amish, just normal building permit regs and homeowner liability concerns.
- Lisa Perkins asked about the Walmart program that the Mayor referenced and if paint supplies might be procured. Mayor Hurley responded that she'll follow up.

8:12 Motion to close Regular Meeting made on a motion by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.

Respectfully submitted.

Jane Dowling – Village Clerk