# **September 6, 2023 GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD**

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Harter will call the meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 7:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mayor Harter, Trustee Fuller, Trustee Olejniczak, Trustee Werner

Board Members Absent: Trustee Roach

Also, Present: Clerk Wierzbicki, Treasurer Geller, Attorney Cassidy, Engineer Hoffman

Approximate Number in Audience:**25**

1. **MINUTES**

Motion made by Trustee Olejniczak seconded by Trustee Fuller to approve the minutes of the August 2nd General Meeting and Public Hearing

##### **VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 Absent**

Motion made by Trustee Werner seconded by Trustee Fuller to approve the minutes of the August 16th Special Meeting

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 Absent**

##### **III. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Motion made by Trustee Fuller seconded by Trustee Olejniczak to accept the Treasurer’s report as submitted.

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 Absent**

**2. Payment of Vouchers**

Motion made by ***Trustee Werner*** seconded by ***Trustee Olejniczak*** to approve payment of the vouchers as audited.

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 Absent**

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| **Transfers** |  |  |
| **Transfers for Fiscal Year 5/31/24 - Aug 2** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **General Fund Expenditures** |  |  |
| **Account Description** | **From** | **To** |
| **Judicial Equipment and Supplies** | **500.00** |  |
| **Judicial Contract Services** |  | **500.00** |
| **(Translator Services)** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Water Fund Expenditures** |  |  |
| **Account Description** | **From** | **To** |
| **Distribution Training and Conferences** | **200.00** |  |
| **Distribution Advertisement** |  | **200.00** |
| **(Water Plant Bid Notices)** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Sewer Fund Expenditures** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **NONE** |  |  |
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|  |  |  |
| Motion made by ***Trustee Fuller*** seconded by ***Trustee*** ***Olejniczak*** to approve transfers as presented  **VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 Absent** |  |  |

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE & PRESENTATIONS**

***Mayor Harter* First I want to add before I hand over to Clerk Wierzbicki, on October 19, at 6PM at Village Hall representatives from the NYSDOT will be holding an informational session on the status of the Route 94 project. I know it’s been a serious discussion and concern for everybody not just in the Village but Town of Warwick, Chester as a whole. They will be here to basically represent New York State and explain what they are doing and when we can expect something and try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. It won’t be a question and answer but it should be a very thorough description of the project and the points they want to make in a certain time within the next year or so. We will try to televise just like we do with the meetings and keep it up on Facebook for anyone who can’t make it. This is a good thing that they are finally acknowledging it and they are moving forward. They want to engage the public just to let you know what’s happening.**

1. **SS Seward Institute sent a request regarding Homecoming on September 30, 2023.**
2. **The Planning Board submitted sign approval for 22 North Main St.**
3. **Town of Chester sent notice of approval of Local Laws 4 and 5 of 2023.**
4. **Zircar Ceramics sent an invitation to an open house and job fair on Saturday September 9, 2023**
5. **Florida Girl Scouts Unit 229 and Cub Scout Pack 4044 sent a fee waiver request for Saturday October 7, 2023 at Glenmere Park**
6. **Village of Greenwood Lake sent an invitation to the Centennial Float Parade on August 17, 2024**
7. **The Village of Florida 9/11 ceremony will be on 9/11 at 7:00 pm at the monument between Village Hall and the Firehouse.**
8. **The Village of Florida Community Garage sale will be 10/14-10/15 from 9 am to 4 pm. Registration is online only.**
9. **A letter was received regarding the audit of court records from the New York State Unified Court System.**
10. **Orange County Department of Human Resources sent a letter regarding a personnel matter.**
11. **Stephen Hunter submitted his oath of office.**
12. **Orange County Department of Health sent a notification for 7/1-9/30.**
13. **Town of Warwick sent a budget request for FY2024.**
14. **Master Meter sent a rate increase notification.**
15. **NYS sent a General Bridge Inspection Report for Jayne Street.**
16. **Orange County sent August 2023 Mortgage tax summary.**

**VII. REPORTS OF THE TRUSTEES**

**There was a brief discussion regarding Trustees and their respective departments**

**1. Thomas Fuller – Police, Justice, Emergency Management, Senior Affairs**

**2. Craig Olejniczak – Recreation & Parks, Animal Control, Buildings/Grounds**

**3. Alyssa Werner – DPW, Sewer/ Water, Chamber of Commerce**

**4. Matthew Roach – Building & Planning, Historical**

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

This opportunity is provided for members of the audience to comment on **any item listed** on the agenda. Please address the Board and limit your comments to five minutes.

**There was no Public Comment**

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. **Greenwood Lake/ Village of Florida IMA Garbage Truck Use**

**Motion to** *table* **agreement as presented between the Village of Greenwood Lake and the Village of Florida DPW beginning motion to *table* by Trustee Fuller seconded by Trustee Olejniczak**

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 Absent**

1. **Local Law 1 of 2023**

**Motion to withdraw Local Law 1 of 2023**

**WHEREAS, the Village Board introduced Introductory Local Law 1 of 2023, a local law to regulate traffic on Farries Avenue, and;**

**WHEREAS, the Village Board held a duly noticed public hearing on August 2, 2023, and;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board hereby withdraws Introductory Local Law 1 of 2023 from consideration and no further action shall be taken at this time.**

**Motion by Trustee *Werner* second by *Trustee Olejniczak***

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 Absent**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **SS Seward Homecoming**

**Motion to reroute traffic on Main St on 9/30/23 from 9:00 am -10:30am for the Homecoming parade. Motion by Trustee Fuller seconded by Trustee Olejniczak**

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 A**

1. **Cub Scout Pack 44/Girl Scout 229 Glenmere Park Use**

**Motion to approve the waiver of the use fee and deposit from Florida Cub Scouts Pack 44 and GS 229 on 10/17-10/18 at Glenmere Park**

**Motion by Trustee Fuller second by Trustee Olejniczak**

**VOTE: YES 3 NO 0 1 abstain 1 absent**

1. **9/11 Ceremony Road Diversion**

**Motion to reroute traffic on Main St on 9/11/23 from 6:30 pm -8:00pm for 9/11 to ceremony.** **Motion by Trustee Werner seconded by Trustee Fuller**

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0**

1. **Water Plant Bids**

***Jason Pitingaro* Good evening, everybody I am Jason Pitingaro** **of Pitingaro and Doetsch as everybody is most likely aware, the Village has been working on a plan to update the Water Treatment plant Glenmere reservoir. The plan is complete and went out to bid 6 weeks ago. We received three bids. We are recommending award the lowest bidder tonight for the General Contract. There were 2 bids received for the Electrical contract we are also recommending award to the lowest bidder as well. The project because of its value required bids for both General and Electrical. If anyone has any questions.**

***Mayor Harter* we will circle back**

* 1. **General Contract**

**OCS Industries Inc. WM Schultz TAM Enterprises**

**$7,640,833.00 $7,883,000.00 $5,888,000.00**

**Motion to approve bid in the amount of $5,888,000.00 from TAM Enterprises.**

**Motion by Trustee Fuller seconded by Trustee Werner**

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0**

* 1. **Electrical Contract**

**EJ Electric Installation Company Mehl Electric**

**$318,080.00 $266,215.00**

**Motion to approve bid in the amount of $266,215.00 from Mehl Electric.**

**Motion by Trustee Werner seconded by Trustee Olejniczak**

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0**

1. **Court Audit**

**Motion to approve the scheduling of audit of court receipts and records on September 20, 2023 by Trustee Fuller second by Trustee Werner**

**VOTE: YES NO**

1. **Meeting Schedule**

September 20, 2023 9:30 AM Work Session and Special Meeting

October 4, 2023 9:30 AM Work Session 7:30 Meeting

October 18, 2023 9:30 AM Work Session

November 1, 2023 9:30 AM Work Session 7:30 Meeting

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mayor Harter any comments questions for our Engineer in general**

**Matthew DeRosa 27 Hill View Dr This is very intimate. So, you had referenced Local Law 1, looking up we weren’t clear what that was specific to the parking and traffic control devices on Farries right? So, no mention has been made about the chain whether it is going to stay up or coming down. I’m not sure of this because it wasn’t mentioned if it’s appropriate to bring up now but I know there’s a lot of conversations regarding the chain. Obviously, there’s a lawsuit that has been filed by folks that keep the chain up or put the chain back up. I know again, I’ll just speak for myself, my family at 27 Hill View Dr. We have two young children who play in our front yard all the time. Anytime you drive past my house you will see them and their friends out there. We have been super vigilant about this chain being opened and we thought it would be a terrible idea. We thought traffic would be significantly increased past our house. We live in a house where anybody whose cutting through the neighborhood has to pass our home. Again, we have seen no significant uptick of traffic. I would be the first one to say hey you are putting my kids at risk or something like that. Certainly, every once in a while, somebody flies through our neighborhood. That’s happened before and unfortunately that’s not going to stop. Having that chain down for us as we spoke about in the last meeting is a tremendous benefit to us from a safety perspective. I know specifically the ambulance dept and the fire department are excited about that chain being down with their access to Beazer. Also, it is a huge convenience for the folks in the community. I know we got a note today to come out, that it sounded like it was going to be decided today but it doesn’t seem like that yet. But I’ll just stand up here again from my family’s perspective at 27 Hill View Dr, we like the chain down. To put the chain back up I believe would be a disservice to the community. Thank you.**

**Andrew Burroughs 7 Doris Court Good Evening my name is Andrew Burroughs and I’m a resident at 27 Doris Court and I had received an email tonight from Spinnaker Management who manages our development telling us something about a chain might go back up and I am here to urge that the Trustees keep the chain down. I’ve also been very concerned about public safety we have one exit onto Randall Ave or Route 94. I have always been concerned if we have a large fire. My house abuts a large forest by the water tower is. That we’d only have one exit with the chain down we have two exits out of the development. I think that the trustees should consider that if anyone is trying to put the chain up the public safety and legal jeopardy rationale, implications for the Village. If anyone was seriously injured from a fire and he could not get out of the development because we only have the one exit. The second thing is it makes a lot easier way to travel. The only way we can get out of the development with Farries Drive is to make a left turn on Randall. Lots of trucks go by there, it’s always been very dangerous to turn left to go into the Village. Now, we can come down this way into the village and go over to Warwick. So, I’m not sure what the status is but I would urge the trustees to keep the chain down and use it to public safety. Thank you.**

**Mayor Harter to Attorney Cassidy you can’t comment on that correct?**

**Attorney Cassidy correct**

**Sue O’Brien 48 Farries Ave I don’t agree with what they are saying for a lot of reasons. If it’s convenience, I accept that. I don’t believe it and I know you’re not going to be able to comment on that. Who did it? How did it happen? Because I spent three years making sure that was going to stay closed. Now it’s open, nobody even knew about until all of the sudden you heard me talk about it last month. I’m still upset with it. I don’t accept the fact that it just happened. This is a government. Everyone of you are my immediate government. Was it done legally? I know you can’t speak to it. I have a lot of problems with the ethics of it. I truly believe if it has to happen you need to go and look at the old Planning Board minutes, look at the SEQR look and see if all of those things are documented. It’s done, you got it open, yes. People in the Beazer development find it a convenience. I don’t care one way or another. Quite frankly, I’m retired. I thought I was never going to have to come out and talk and speak again. This has brought me out real big time. You all know my initials, the rest of me and man you’ve got it raised. How dare you do anything without doing it legally. I’m sorry my husband, one of you know my husband. He’s got bail money for me because he knows how angry I am. This is taking away from the value of my home that I planned on being buried in.one other thing, why do you guys not have a working Ethics Committee? I want to know why. I think every government in the world has it. Whose ethics are important and I’m pretty sure all of you have ethics. Quite frankly you need to check that out. Ask anybody in this Village whether they’re the old time Floridians or the new people, ethics is important to them. I’m really very disappointed that this has happened. Truly I know the newspaper said I was disgusted, he misquoted me, I said I am disappointed with you guys. The fact that it happened and nobody said “what?” this is unacceptable. I feel bad for some of you who might not feel right about it but you guys have to make it right. If you truly want it open do the right thing to do is redo the SEQR cost big bucks. Go back to the Planning Board and do it legally or do a Referendum for the whole Village. Have the whole Village vote whether they want it open or not. How dare you impact the people who live on Farries? I mean it’s disgusting. Sir, you’re telling me there’s no more traffic (at audience member)**

**Mayor Harter no no no address us**

**Sue Obrien excuse me, there is a lot more traffic. A lot more, and guess what? I know the Village police are up to their elbows in alligators. Quite frankly I’m just beyond disappointed, period. You know me, I’m beyond disappointed so much that I could turn around and walk away but I wont cause guess what I pay my taxes too.**

**MH Thank you.**

**Meeti Purani 66 Hill View Drive I’m in agreement that the chain should be down not only because we are part of the community we also pay taxes. It does create more of a community feel and connects us with everyone in the Village. Well, before the chain was down, we would feel a little more disconnected. I am one of the people who is driving through Farries a little bit more often now.**

**Something I am more conscientious of but it’s good.**

**MH Thank you. Alright, last call.**

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Trustee Werner seconded by Trustee Fuller to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.

**VOTE: YES 4 NO 0 1 Absent**