

REGULAR MEETING
March 18, 2021

The Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Upper Nyack was held via videoconferencing on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM. In accordance with the Executive Order of Governor Andrew Cuomo, this meeting was held by video/teleconference. The meeting was recorded and transcribed.

Those participating: Mayor Karen Tarapata, Trustees Michael Esmay, Laurie Dodge, Jeffrey Epstein, Ken Rothchild
Village Clerk Carol G. Brotherhood, Village Treasurer Rich Fortunato,
Others identified: PO J. Kennedy, PO N. Davies – CPD; Jilanna Sinnott, Heather Candella

MINUTES – Trustee Dodge made a motion to accept the minutes for the **February 18, 2021 Regular Meeting**, as amended, seconded by Trustee Epstein and so approved.

On call for a vote:

AYES: Mayor Karen Tarapata, Trustees Dodge & Epstein

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Trustees Esmay & Rothchild

MINUTES – Trustee Rothchild made a motion to accept the minutes for the **Joint Meeting, Town of Clarkstown, March 9, 2021**, seconded by Trustee Dodge and so approved.

On call for a vote:

AYES: Mayor Karen Tarapata, Trustees Dodge, Esmay, Rothchild &

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Trustee Epstein

POLICE REPORTS – PO Davies presented the CPD report to the Board.

The following was noted and discussed:

Five MV accidents without injury (Maple Ave, 9W and Highmount, N. Broadway and Castle Heights, Highmount and Highmount Terrace, Camp Ratimah), eight fire and burglar alarms, school, area, cultural, and religious checks ongoing. No domestics, larcenies, or stolen vehicles, three calls for frauds and scams, fraudulent unemployment, IRS, and one fraudulent checking account setup in another name, one fraudulent insurance claim.

One intoxicated woman walking on Old Mountain Road, taken to Nyack Hospital.

Some parking tickets were written on Locust due to the no parking sides being moved to the opposite side. Armed robbery using box cutters in Cooper Drive in South Nyack.

Town of Clarkstown, 28 OD, five deaths (23 surviving).

Rockland County, 85 OD – 17 deaths (58 surviving).

No questions from the Board.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Financial statements YTD. Review of costs: Lighting for Village Hall, roof repair due to snow, carting bill, transmission, and audit. The Village Chase credit card will be canceled and replaced with a debit card to avoid excessive fees. Budget papers will be emailed to Board and Mayor for review the morning of Friday, March 19, 2021. Page one reviews the highlights, page two contains the Mayor's budget, page three provides salary and overtime information. Budget workshop will take place on March 25, 2021, tentative budget on April 15, 2021

DEER DISCUSSION – Greg Fisher, a North Broadway resident since 1985, and a UN resident for 40 years noted when he first moved here there were infrequent sightings and now the area is overrun with deer, expressing concern of related health issues due to ticks and deer droppings, and the eating shrubs and trees as a result of overpopulation. Mr. Fisher sent information regarding the deer issue and proposed solutions, such as a deer culling plan in Princeton, NJ, ahead of the meeting. Mayor Tarapata proposed having a public hearing on the issue. Trustee Esmay recalled a previous committee regarding the deer issue was split down the middle and emotional. Mr. Fisher stressed it is a health hazard to his family. Trustee Dodge agreed, but added it warrants a conversation, as a lot has changed over the years, damage to vegetation, and that the Board should investigate what Princeton, NJ did further. Mr. Fisher noted that the deer have become more brazen. Mayor Tarapata noted the deer population from the State Park would replenish any culling efforts. Trustee Epstein also noted this should be a public conversation however it may be polarizing and costly. Trustee Rothchild mentioned there is a similar deer issue in Fire Island. Mayor Tarapata will begin discussions with public regarding quality of life issues, will share the information regarding the deer issue and hold public discussion. Mr. Fisher thanked the board for their dedication and hard work without pay, thanked Carol Brotherhood, Village Clerk for 30 years of dedication. Mayor Tarapata will setup public meeting.

ANNEXATION OF PROPERTIES ON N. HIGHLAND AVE (ROUTE 9W) – Resolution (attached) finding annexation in the overall public interest. Resolution was read into the record by Mayor Tarapata. No questions or comments from the Board.

Trustee Esmay made a motion to adopt. Trustee Dodge seconded and so approved.

On call for a vote:

AYES: Mayor Karen Tarapata, Trustees Esmay, Dodge, Rothchild & Epstein

NOES: None

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW – Seven village tax payers grieved their assessments on February 18, 2021. Board of Assessment Chair, Ken Rothchild, Trustee, made a motion for the board to accept the recommendations. Trustee Dodge seconded and so approved.

On call for a vote:

AYES: Mayor Karen Tarapata, Trustees Esmay, Dodge, Rothchild & Epstein

NOES: None

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF UPPER NYACK – to protect employees and contractors. This plan was set up for future public health emergencies, and does not supersede COVID-19 protocols. Comments from staff are open until April 1, 2021. Discussion of stockpiled supplies in case of any disruption to the supply chain during a future health emergency (masks, gloves, cleaning supplies. Mayor Tarapata stated she will inquire working with the county’s shared supply services. Trustee Esmay motioned to accept the plan, Trustee Epstein seconded and so approved.

On call for a vote:

AYES: Mayor Karen Tarapata, Trustees Esmay, Dodge, Rothchild, Epstein

NOES: None

REPRESENTATION OF THE VILLAGE OF UPPER NYACK PLANNING BOARD, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD by Noelle C. Wolfson, Esq. of Hoeherman, Tortorella, and Wekstein, LLP for the period of April 2021 – March 2022. Trustee Epstein made a motion to approve, Trustee Dodge seconded and so approved.

On call for a vote:

AYES: Mayor Karen Tarapata, Trustees Esmay, Dodge, Rothchild, Epstein

NOES: None

No further comments or questions.

Motion to adjourn: Trustee Dodge, Trustee Esmay seconded.

On call for a vote:

AYES: Mayor Karen Tarapata, Trustees Esmay, Dodge, Rothchild, Epstein,

NOES: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Candella

Clerk Typist