

**VILLAGE of GREENWOOD LAKE
BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024**

**VILLAGE OF GREENWOOD LAKE
PO BOX 7, 18 CHURCH STREET
GREENWOOD LAKE, NY 10925**

Mayor Matthew Buckley called to order the Village Board Meeting/Public Hearing at 6:03 pm on March 20, 2024, for the Village of Greenwood Lake located at 18 Church Street in Greenwood Lake, NY.

The following persons were present:

- Mayor Mathew Buckley
- Deputy Mayor Kelli Kelm
- Trustee Chad Sellier
- Trustee Thomas Howley
- Attorney Brian Nugent

The following persons were absent:

- Trustee Nancy Clifford

PUBLIC HEARING #1 opened at 6:05 pm by Trustee Kelm and seconded by Trustee Sellier. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

PRESENTATION:

The Village of Greenwood Lake will be voting on a Local Law establishing requirements and procedures for the payment of professional fees by land use applicants in the Village.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Mayor Buckley opened the discussion by explaining that this new law would give an applicant an estimate on fees which would be incurred during the permitting process.

Trustee Sellier asked if the new fee schedule would be a flat fee for applicants or if it would be hourly rates for each professional. Clerk Holder responded that for smaller projects such a septic replacement would ideally be a flat fee and Attorney Nugent added that for larger projects, we could provide an estimate.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert McCoobery, 1177 17A Greenwood Lake, NY, asked why an applicant would be responsible for the Village's legal fees. Mayor Buckley responded that the applicant would be responsible for legal fees pertaining to the specific project. Mr. McCoobery then asked why if the Village's legal counsel is being paid to be at a meeting, why would the applicant have to pay. Attorney Nugent responded that the Village pays for general counsel, but anything related directly to an applicant's plan review, is charged to the applicant.

Ed Krull, 659 Jersey Ave. Greenwood Lake, NY, asked if specific dollar amounts would be established for each professional. Mayor Buckley responded in the affirmative. Mr. Krull asked if the applicant would be responsible for fees incurred if new zoning needed to be created for their specific project. Attorney Nugent replied that fees incurred for a zoning amendment for a specific property would be passed on to the applicant. If the village initiates zoning change, the village would pay for that.

CLOSE

Motioned to close the Public Hearing establishing requirements and procedures for the payment of professional fees by land use applicants in the Village by Trustee Sellier at 6:24 pm and seconded by Trustee Kelm. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

PUBLIC HEARING #2 opened at 6:27pm by Trustee Howley and seconded by Trustee Kelm. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

PRESENTATION:

The Village of Greenwood Lake will be voting on a Local Law amending Chapter 23 of the Village Code (Records Access) to improve records access and appeals procedures.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Attorney Nugent explained that this local law addresses the Freedom of Information Law part of the Village Code. This law sets forth the timeline and procedure for handling FOIL requests. The mayor would be the Appeals Officer instead of the entire Village Board, which would require a special meeting for any and all appeals to remain within the legal timeline.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSE

Motioned to close the Public Hearing amending Chapter 23 of the Village Code (Records Access) to improve records access and appeals procedures by Trustee Sellier at 6:31 pm and seconded by Trustee Howley. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

PUBLIC HEARING #3 opened at 6:31pm by Trustee Howley and seconded by Trustee Sellier. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

PRESENTATION:

The Village of Greenwood Lake will be voting on a Local Law authorizing videoconferencing at Village meetings in the Village of Greenwood Lake pursuant to New York State Public Officers Law § 103-a.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Attorney Nugent explained that the law would allow a trustee to videoconference into a public meeting when necessary.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Krull, 659 Jersey Ave., Greenwood Lake, NY, asked if this law would cover all public meetings or only Village Board meetings. Attorney Nugent advised that the law would cover all boards.

Jeanne Marron, 5 Brook Court, Greenwood Lake, NY, asked if this law would apply to Public Hearings. Attorney Nugent answered that it would only apply to meetings that have no Public Comment.

CLOSE

Motioned to close the Public Hearing authorizing videoconferencing at Village meetings in the Village of Greenwood Lake pursuant to New York State Public Officers Law § 103-a by Trustee Sellier at 6:41 pm and seconded by Trustee Howley. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

PUBLIC HEARING #4 opened at 6:41pm by Trustee Howley and seconded by Trustee Sellier. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

PRESENTATION:

The Village of Greenwood Lake will be voting on a Local authorizing a property tax levy limit in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law § 3-C.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Trustee Sellier asked if we know what the tax cap is. Clerk Holder answered that the percentage changes every year based on numerous variables. Attorney Nugent explained that this law is passed every year in the event that the Village does go above the tax cap. Mayor Buckley added that most municipalities pass this law every year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeanne Marron asked how the tax cap number is determined. Clerk Holder said that it is determined by the New York State Comptroller's Office.

Ed Krull asked if this law gives the Village Board the ability to adjust the tax levy according to the tax cap. Trustee Sellier answered that it gives the Board the ability to go above the tax cap and that there will be a Budget Public Hearing at which the public can voice any and all budget concerns. Mr. Krull also asked that resolutions be provided in their entirety with the agenda. Attorney Nugent added that the resolutions that will be passed to adopt local laws contain no substance as to what the local laws state and suggested that what Mr. Krull should be looking at is the actual local law.

CLOSE

Motioned to close the Public Hearing authorizing a property tax levy limit in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law § 3-C by Trustee Kelm at 6:47 pm and seconded by Trustee Sellier. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

WORKSHOP AND VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

I would like to announce the results of yesterday's election:
Incumbent Trustee Chad Sellier has been re-elected for another term!
John Trazino has been elected to the Village Board.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to both Trustee Sellier and Mr. Trazino. We look forward to their leadership in serving our community.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to Nancy Clifford for her dedicated service on the Village Board. Your contributions have been invaluable, and we appreciate the time and effort you've invested in our community.

A big thank you goes out to our dedicated poll workers for ensuring a smooth and successful election. We also extend our appreciation to Katheleen, our Village Clerk, for her tireless work in managing the election process. Finally, we want to thank all of the residents who came out to cast their ballots yesterday. With over 500 ballots cast, it's clear that our community values its democratic right to vote. Your participation is essential in shaping the future of our village.

Congratulations to Kathy Rousseau, our Court Clerk, on her retirement.

Congratulations to Al Nicholas on his retirement from the Greenwood Lake Police Department.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ed Mateo - Letter of Resignation

Al Nicholas- Letter of Resignation

Orange County Department of Health- Reminder of Jurisdictional Oversight and Review

Gillian Losa- requesting an extension of a Building Permit

Township of West Milford – re-adopting Ordinance 2003-02 to vacate certain public rights in a road known as “Tenafly Court” of the Township of West Milford

VISITING OFFICIAL REPORTS:

Floyd Deangleo had no report.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

PARKS DEPARTMENT (February and March):

- Took down the snow flakes
- Repaired fence by the Teen Center basketball court
- Picked up two weed harvesters from West Milford
- Repaired small harvester: new fuel tank, rebuilt starter, and rebuilt fuel pump
- Picked up garbage
- Repaired leaking boiler at PD
- Began cleaning around shop for spring
- Took down ice rinks
- Repaired broken guard rail in Lions Field parking area
- Began working on new wall and flat area near concession stand

DPW: No report

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief Adam Eirand reported the following for March 2024:

COMPLAINTS: 1146
ARRESTS: 8
TRAFFIC SUMMONSES: 171
PARKING SUMMONSES: 3
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS: 2

The annual PBA Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 10am sharp! The Traffic Safety Committee met in February. There are seven members, including Village Board members, police officers and village residents. Meetings are the third Monday of the month at 6pm at the courthouse. All village residents are welcome.

WATER DEPARTMENT: No report

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Howley: Trustee Howley attended two safety meetings with Chief Eirand and Sergeant Jones and relayed to the public the procedures, equipment, etc., necessary for traffic safety. Beach passes are on sale at Village Hall and also online. Prices have increased for the 2024 season but are available at a discounted rate until June 1, 2024. Brendan Kolesar has been working hard at getting the beach ready for its opening at the end of May.

Trustee Kelm: The Greenwood Lake Middle School Eighth Grade vs. faculty basketball game was well-attended and all proceeds went towards the eighth-grade trip. The Drama Club put on *Finding Nemo* which was quite impressive. The library is looking for a Youth Director. Anyone interested please contact Jill Cronin 845-477-8733. There is a youth science program at the library entitled *The Science Behind the Eclipse*. April 11th is a family craft night.

Trustee Sellier: This report covers the month of February 2024. The Building Department took in \$3,833 in January; approximately one third was for building permits and short-term rental inspection and registration fees made up the other two thirds.

Attorney Report – Brian Nugent: advised the Board that they will need to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation.

Clerk's Report – Katheleen Holder: Water bills have been mailed out and are due April 22, 2024, without penalty. There is also a secure drop box for payments near the front door of Village Hall. Please only drop of payments by check, no cash. Congressman Patrick Ryan will have his Care Van on April 16, 2024, at Village Hall to discuss Veterans' affairs, social security concerns, and IRS issues with citizens.

OLD BUSINESS

Planning and Zoning Boards: A new combined board will be created in April after our annual Reorganization Meeting.

Golf Carts: A bill has been moved to Committee in Albany to make golf carts legal in Greenwood Lake.

Comprehensive Plan: A committee will be formed to start work on the new comprehensive plan. Members will be contacted in the near future by our new planner, Bonnie Franson.

Water Plant and DOH: We are still working to expedite the plans for the new filtration system.

Beach Passes: Currently on sale at Village Hall and our website. Prices go up June 1, 2024.

Hotel/Motel Tax: This is a bill that is currently in Albany which would place a tax on hotels and motels as well as Airbnb's and VRBOs that would filter directly to the village. The village would like to use this money to keep the lake clean.

Budget for 2024/2025: The next Budget Workshop will be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at Village Hall.

NEW BUSINESS

New Lake Management Company: The lake treatment company has changed again; the new company is Tigris. They will be assessing the lake and implement new procedures.

Weed Harvesters: Thank you to West Milford for partnering with us and getting two weed harvesters up and running.

EVENTS:

- Teen Center scheduled for Tuesday nights, located at the Community Center, 51 Waterstone Road between the hours of 4-6 PM for 2-5th grades, 6-8 PM for 6-8th grade.
- Planning Board meeting scheduled for March 7, 2024, located at Village Hall, located at 18 Church Street starting at 7:30 PM.
- Zoning Board Meeting scheduled for March 21, 2024, located at Village Hall, 18 Church Street

starting at 7:30 PM.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Police Chief Adam Eirand thanked Greenwood Lake Tree Service on behalf of Greenwood Lake Little League. Trees were removed and trimmed at the ball fields.

Jeanne Maron, asked why the meetings are not listed on the village website. Clerk Holder responded that the meetings are listed if you click on Village Calendar. She also asked what the rules are for the electronic sign in the middle of the village. Clerk Holder answered that anyone can contact her to get an event on the village sign and added that most events are hosted by nonprofits and village sponsored events.

Mayor Buckley added that the “I Was There” event hosted by the Centennial Committee was a success.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #68: Authorizes the mayor to sign an amendment of the Bond Resolution passed on January 20, 2024, increasing the total borrowing to \$147,000. Motion made by Trustee Howley and seconded by Trustee Kelm. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Resolution #69 Adopting Local Law 2 of 2024 to repeal and replace Chapter 53 of the Village Code (Consultant Fees).

Motion made by Trustee Sellier and seconded by Trustee Howley. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Resolution #70 Adopting Local Law 3 of 2024 to repeal and replace Chapter 23 (Records, Public Access to).

Motion made by Trustee Kelm and seconded by Trustee Sellier. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Resolution #71 Adoption of new regulations for public access to municipal records. Motion made by Trustee Sellier and seconded by Trustee Howley. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Resolution #72 Adopting Local Law 4 of 2024 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law § 3-C. Motion made by Trustee Kelm and seconded by Trustee Howley. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Resolution #73 Adopting Local Law 5 of 2024 authorizing the use of videoconferencing for Village Meetings.

Motion made by Trustee Sellier and seconded by Trustee Howley. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Resolution #74 authorizes the extension of building permit number 19-07618. Motion made by Trustee Kelm and seconded by Trustee Sellier. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

APPROVAL TO PAY ALL AUDITED BILLS:

Motion made by Trustee Howley and seconded by Trustee Kelm. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from the February 21, 2024, Board Meeting, and March 1, 2024, Special Board Meeting made by Trustee Clifford and seconded by Trustee Kelm. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Motion to table the approval of minutes from the March 6, 2024, Budget workshop made by Trustee Sellier and seconded by Mayor Buckley. 3 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Howley; 1 Nay- Trustee Kelm; Absent - Trustee Clifford.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:16pm to discuss the litigation in Orange County Supreme Court of Klastow v. Village of Greenwood Lake made by Trustee Howley and seconded by Trustee Kelm. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Motion to exit Executive Session at 7:24pm made by Trustee Kelm and seconded by Trustee Sellier. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned to adjourn Village Board Meeting by Trustee Sellier at 7:25 pm and seconded by Trustee Kelm. 4 Ayes- Mayor Buckley, Trustee Howley, Trustee Sellier, and Trustee Kelm. Absent - Trustee Clifford.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Katheleen Holder
Village Clerk/Treasurer

The next meeting will be April 17, 2024, 6:30pm Public Hearings, immediately followed by Workshop, and Village Board Meeting at the Courthouse on Waterstone Road, Greenwood Lake, NY 10925.