

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF MASTIC BEACH ON TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 11, 2012 AT THE MASTIC BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT AT 7:00PM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 PM by Mayor Biondi with approximately 80 residents in attendance.

Mayor Biondi led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Roll Call was taken by the Village Clerk.

In attendance: Mayor Biondi
Deputy Mayor Stiriz
Trustee Bissonette
Trustee Cappiello

Absent: Trustee Morrow

Also Present: Village Attorney Brian Egan
Village Administrator Timothy Brojer
Village Clerk Virgilia Gross

Mayor Biondi welcomed the residents in attendance and invited Inspector Neubauer of the 7th Precinct to address the audience.

Inspector Neubauer reported that burglaries were on the increase, as per the holiday season, with UPS delivery trucks followed for same. It was advised that residents lock their cars, stay alert and keep lights on in the evening. Inspector Neubauer answered a variety of questions from the residents, including gun shots heard, explosion on Lakeview Drive, and advised residents to call 911 immediately if they hear a gun shot or find wildlife victims of arrow or shooting. Trustee Bissonette asked if the DEC issues nuisance permits to residents in order to shoot deer on their property. Inspector Neubauer stated that the DEC does not permit same and asked residents to report police officers unwilling to look into calls regarding animals found shot.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Cappiello with Trustee Bissonette abstaining, it was RESOLVED to Accept the Minutes of the November 13, 2012 Regular Meeting & Public Hearing.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Cappiello and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to Accept the Minutes of the November 28, 2012 Work Session.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Stiriz and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to Accept the Minutes of the December 5, 2012 Work Session.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Cappiello and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to Authorize the payment of presented bills as per Abstract No. 07-2012 in the amount of \$272,535.20.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Cappiello with Deputy Mayor Stiriz abstaining, it was RESOLVED to Authorize the payment of presented bills as per Abstract No 07A-2012 in the amount of \$30,476.91.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Cappiello and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to Adopt the findings of the Audit for the Fiscal Year Ending May 31, 2012, as submitted by Nawrocki, Smith LLP.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Cappiello and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to Authorize the hiring of Deborah Watkins as part-time clerk typist at a rate of \$12 per hour, not to exceed 20 hours per week.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Stiriz and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to Authorize the hiring of Tomie Poitras as Maintenance Mechanic II on a part-time basis at a rate of \$14.75 per hour, not to exceed 35 hours per week.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Stiriz with Trustee Bissonette abstaining, it was RESOLVED to Authorize and direct the Village Clerk to publish a Request for Proposals for Tree Trimming Services.

TRUSTEES REPORTS

Trustee Capiello reported the following for the Building Department for the month of November:

- 18 building permits issued
- 6 rental registrations
- 2 Certificates of Occupancy
- 1 Certificate of Compliance
- 12 Property Searches

Trustee Capiello reported the following for Code Enforcement for the month of November:

- 18 Appearance Tickets issued
- 84 Complaints received, of which 19 were unfounded
- 25 Warnings issued
- Compliance achieved on 3 cases

Trustee Capiello also reported that a Christmas Party will be held by Colonial Youth for the children affected by Super Storm Sandy. Contact Linda Zach for further information.

Deputy Mayor Stiriz reported on the progress of storm debris removal, with a one week break in clean-up to allow for residents to place more at curbside; brush should be cut to less than 7' length (instead of mandatory 4' foot) that will be picked up by packers during the week; the Village is currently working on an inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Brookhaven regarding salt and sand and that applications for snow plow contractors were available at Village Hall.

Mayor Biondi reported that the Town landfill had hit capacity and that the DEC would not allow anymore garbage until permits were acquired. 50 Christmas trees have been donated to residents by Governor Cuomo and they will be available at the Fire Department for pick-up. Mr. Dolan, from MSG has donated 40 tickets to Island 16 for the viewing of the 12.12.12 concert, which will be distributed to those interested in attending.

Trustee Capiello reported that FEMA and hazard mitigation funding for the raising of homes may become available and asked residents to sign up for contact when more information is received.

Mayor Biondi addressed the following rumors that are being spread: 1) Village did not chase FEMA out of town; 2) FEMA will not put trailers in a flood zone; and 3) the Village is not allowing the overcrowding of damaged homes – Code Enforcement has investigated the residence and the rumor is far from the truth.

Trustee Bissonette proposed a discussion regarding a waiver to the requirement of a Village Contractor Permit, citing that many residents were hard hit by the storm and it is presenting a challenge in getting contractors in to work on homes. Trustee Bissonette believes that it is in the best interest of the residents to suspend the required Contractor permit for six months.

Mayor Biondi stated that the Contractor Permit issued by the Village helps prevent fraud and that there are a lot of phonies around, preying on residents. An example of one instance involved roofing material, normally purchased at \$500 and a resident being charged \$1,700 instead. It is the Mayor's desire to protect homeowners as much as possible by checking insurance is in place,

etc. Mayor Biondi also urged residents with damage to get letters from their insurance company now for repairs to the 4 foot of exterior walls that will need to be replaced in the spring.

Trustee Cappiello further reported that the STEP program through Suffolk County and FEMA is available to provide heat and electrical outlets for residents to move back home while repairs are in process; residents should call 211 to get into the STEP program.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Fox: addressed concerns to the Board regarding the following:

- Residents not allowed to comment at Work Session
- Unhappy with extension of office terms from two to four years
- Open lines of communication with residents
- What the new Village Hall will look like
- Code of Ethics, never appointed ethics commission

Trustee Bissonette stated that she was lone vote against the extension of terms of office and that a public hearing should have been held. Attorney Egan clarified what is required under Village Law and that the government is run in accordance with the law, the resolution was passed and that no current Board member's term was extended. The extension would have applied to those after the next election in March and that the Board was authorized under Village Law to pass the extension of office terms by resolution, subject to permissive referendum; can be put to a vote without requirement of a public hearing. Mr. Egan further explained that General Municipal Law and Open Meetings Law determine how the Village of Mastic Beach will run meetings and that the formalities regarding process are important.

Donna Velleman: Respects Trustee Bissonette for asking for public hearing and asked for clarification regarding permissive referendum. Attorney Egan explained the process from resolution to permissive referendum.

Mayor Biondi added that Work Session is designed so that the Board of Trustees can work in public, but that it is not for public comment. Trustee Bissonette stated that resolutions should be available before the monthly meeting and residents can request to make presentation to the Board at a work session.

Glenn Svoboda: Not in favor of the extension to the office terms, but wanted to thank the fire department for helping regarding breach at Fire Island and the flooding that had occurred.

Deputy Mayor Stiriz advised that to raise your home 2 foot is allowable without FEMA approval.

Mayor Biondi reported that the breach in Bellport will remain open for 60 days, with monitoring of self-closure possibility; little of the barrier beach is left, with the Federal government needed to repair same; tide levels in bay appear to be lower with a call to Tim Bishop and Chas. Schumer to make beaches the way they were 10 years ago.

Victor Zeleny: Asked if the Village was bankrupt, have bonds been issued and if the election was canceled. Answer to all, "No."

Jane Powers: Clarification of comprehensive plan regarding proposed zoning code. Attorney Egan explained the difference between a comprehensive plan and SEQRA review, cost and time involved for same.

Betty Manzella: Was not in favor of term of office extension and would like discussion with residents before passage of resolution such as this.

Michelle Wilkinson: Not in favor of term of office extension.

Mayor Biondi asked for a show of hands in favor of two year terms.

Maura Spery: Would like the Town, Village and local civics to create an "adopt a highway" program; is against term of office extension and asked board to reconsider same.

Andrew Minew: Has researched resolution for the extension of term limits online and Board can still call for vote on resolution; also, breaches will clean the bay and why did Mr. Stiriz abstain from vote on abstract resolution.

Barbara Scalafani: not in favor of term of office extension.

Anne Leonardi: expressed that the Board should state the reason why they voted to extend term of office and that it was too bad only negative is being heard.

Irene Pasqual: Lives north of Neighborhood Road, property value has decreased; focus needs to be on positive place for people to live and that all should work together, keep yards in order to increase property value.

Mayor Biondi reminded the residents that the Village has dealt with two major storms in two years and that a long term plan is hard to complete in two year terms and that the Board is trying hard to get things done.

Arthur Kruse: asked if the extension of terms of office can be placed on the ballot and that if a home was subjected to water, the electrical wires need to be changed.

Mayor Biondi wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Cappiello and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to End the Regular Meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virgilia C. Gross
Village Clerk

Dated: December 26, 2012

