

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION HELD BY THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF MASTIC BEACH
ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2014 AT
MASTIC BEACH VILLAGE HALL
369 NEIGHBORHOOD RD, MASTIC BEACH, NEW YORK AT 5:00PM**

The Work Session was called to order at 5:00 PM by Mayor Biondi with 14 residents in attendance.

Mayor Biondi led the audience with the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Roll Call was taken by the Village Clerk.

In attendance: Mayor Biondi
Deputy Mayor Busa
Trustee Stiriz
Trustee Spery
Trustee Summa

Also Present: Attorney Brian Egan
Village Clerk Susan Draghi
Village Administrator Tim Brojer

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Busa, and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to authorize the payment of presented bills as per Abstract A1-2014 in the amount of \$10,322.97.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Busa, it was RESOLVED to Accept the Minutes of the Work Session held on May 7, 2014. **TABLED to June 10.**

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Spery, and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to Set a Public Hearing on July 8, 2014 amending Chapter 197.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Stiriz, and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to adopt the 2014 Suffolk County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Stiriz, and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to Set a Public Hearing on July 8, 2014 to amend Section 530-5-3 of the Village Code to streamline the site development plan approval process for actions involving single-family houses.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Spery and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to adopt a negative declaration pursuant to SEQRA for the construction of sidewalks and curbs from Neighborhood Rd to Bayview Park.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Spery, and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to support the Chamber of Commerce's application for a project to construct sidewalks and curbs to connect Neighborhood Road to Bayview Park.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Stiriz, and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to authorize an agreement with the House of Carpets Inc. (Carpet Express) for general office cleaning services.

DISCUSSIONS:

***Street Signs** – Trustee Summa commented on the green lettering on the white street signs. He commented that it was very difficult to read and asked if we were liable. Attorney Egan commented that the Village is exempt from the NYS guidelines. Trustee Summa also asked the Mayor about the street sign maker. Trustee Stiriz addressed that question by saying that we never bought one. Trustee Summa asked if there was a schedule to replace the old signs. Mayor Biondi informed Trustee Summa that we are not going around taking down street signs and replacing them. We only replace them when they are stolen. Mayor Biondi addressed this by saying that the old signs cost \$45 each and with the new ones, they cost is from \$25 to \$28 each.

***Charging Stations** – Trustee Spery has a grant proposal out that would we would receive \$2,500 if we made a code to allow for electric charging stations.

***Public Hearing Protocol** – Trustee Spery mentioned about talking back from the audience, she would like to see it stopped. Also, would like to see the time limits on the people who get up to speak.

***Contractors Lists** – Trustee Summa explained to the Board that this is not very popular. Does not see the purpose of having contractors pay \$100 for a permit and people have to pick a contractor from the list. Trustee Summa suggests that we put an end to the mandatory list and make it voluntary. He feels this is very restricted and we should stop this. Trustee Stiriz commented on this saying how important it is after what happened after Superstorm Sandy with people saying they were contractors and they weren't and just stealing money from the residents. Trustee Spery is totally against the contractors having to get a permit from the Village.

***Commissioners Titles** – Trustee Spery questioned NYCOM about commissioner's titles and they answered her questions. Trustee Spery would like a personnel liaison for the Village. Mayor Biondi advised Trustee Spery that Trustee Stiriz took over that position from former Trustee Morrow. Mayor Biondi added that Tim Brojer is Code Enforcement Supervisor. The Code Enforcement Supervisor who does the scheduling on a daily basis is Sgt. Pat Mancuso. Mayor Biondi advised Trustee Summa that if he needs schedules to please see Sgt. Mancuso for this information.

Trustee Summa questioned Attorney Egan about what records he is entitled to. Trustee Summa has asked for a list of employees who received medical benefits from the Village. Trustee Summa also asked for all the names on the medical policies. Attorney Egan informed Trustee Summa that he is only permitted to review certain things because of HIPPA privacy. Trustee Summa would also like the names and schedules of all code enforcement officers. Also, commented that he is not permitted to see the applications for Code Supervisor. He has also asked for a list of people who paid their taxes on July 2, 2013 and have been refused.

***Ethics Board** – Trustee Spery would like to see if we could possibly have an Ethics Board

***Description & Schedules for DPW/Highway/Waste Management** - Trustee Spery had questions regarding the Highway Dept. schedules. Trustee Spery would like to know if there is a schedule for fixing the sidewalks and street sweeping. She would like all 88 miles for roads in the Village to be swept in a reasonable amount of time. Would also like to know if there is a plan about fixing the sides of the roads. Trustee Stiriz addressed this by saying it is basically up to the weather...if the weather cooperates the men will be out fixing roads and cutting grass. If the weather is against us, than they will be doing other things. Trustee Stiriz felt it was extremely important to take care of the drains. Most of the drains had not been touched in over 15 years. Regarding the roads, Trustee Stiriz is meeting with Tim Bishop tomorrow to discuss federal funding. Trustee Spery now discusses Waste Management and feels the Village should have people going along Neighborhood Rd with brooms sweeping the street and also pick up trash in the street. They should also include going around picking up dead animals at the sides of the roads. Mayor Biondi commented that whenever he receives a phone call about a dead animal, he acts on it and has it removed. Trustee Summa would like to see more money put into waste management. Mayor Biondi told Trustee Summa that a lot of the money that came out of waste

management was used for demolition of 12-13 houses. Trustee Summa asked the Mayor how much it costs to take down a house. The Mayor responded with \$11,000 - \$15,000 per house. The Mayor also spoke about the supersucker and that Frank Perino has cleaned out over 200 drains with the machine and that money comes out of waste management. Trustee Spery asked about working with the Sheriff's office and having them come to pick up the litter on the sides of the roads. Trustee Stiriz addressed the comment and advised the Board that the Sheriff's Department has not assigned anyone to our area yet.

***Village Historian** – Trustee Spery feels that the Village should have a Village Historian. Mayor Biondi said he will look into it.

***GIS Parcels List of Vacant Homes – Strategy for Vacant Homes** – Trustee Spery asked if the Village would please send Suffolk County the list of substantially damaged homes from SuperStorm Sandy. Mayor Biondi said he has not sent it to them and won't. Suffolk County doesn't have the money to buy these houses right now. They are looking for this information so they can put it on their grant that they have a certain amount of houses. Mayor Biondi is working with NY Rising to do the very same thing that the County is looking to do. Mayor Biondi feels why should Suffolk County take money away from us and take houses away from us and take the management money away from us when we can do the same thing. Mayor Biondi will not give the information to Suffolk County so they can get the grant money before us. Trustee Summa questioned Mayor Biondi and said that Mayor Biondi wants us to get the grant money to buy these homes and then you're not going to turn them into parkland, you're going to resale them or rebuild on them. Mayor Biondi responded and said yes, that it's all part of an acquisition program. Trustee Summa asked Mayor Biondi if he had the grant yet. Mayor Biondi responded no, and neither does Suffolk County. Trustee Summa feels that Mayor Biondi doesn't have the right to do this. If the citizens want to get on to the program with the County, Mayor Biondi would be happy to give the information to them. There are 3 choices to pick from – relocate, buy out or raise. The County is saying that you only have one option and that is to sell your property to Suffolk County so it can be turned back into vacant land. Mayor Biondi advised Trustee Summa, that as long as he is Mayor he has to protect the interest of this Village. He is not about to lose another 100 or 200 homes to the County, when I have a book inside my office with 500 parcels that the County owns already and they don't anything with them. Trustee Summa asked the Mayor what he expects Suffolk County to do with them. Mayor Biondi wants Suffolk County to go and clean up their properties just like he is expected to clean his. Trustee Summa asked Attorney Egan about this. Attorney Egan agreed with Mayor Biondi that Suffolk County is only giving one option. Trustee Spery joined in the conversation and claims that many investors have come in and bought houses and are renting them without a rental permit. Attorney Egan advised Trustee Spery that if she has that information that she needs to give that information to the Building Department and they will investigate it.

Again, Mayor Biondi is holding on to the list because he is looking out for the best interest of the Village.

Trustee Summa made a motion to give Suffolk County the list of substantially damaged homes, seconded by Trustee Spery, opposed by Mayor Biondi, Deputy Mayor Busa and Trustee Stiriz.

Mayor Biondi addressed Trustee Summa and said that he takes objection that Trustee Summa and Trustee Spery met with Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone behind his back to discuss other issues without telling him.

***Zoning status for Marina 1 and 5** – Tabled by Trustee Spery.

***Code Enforcement – duties and directions/job description** – Per the Mayor, anyone can get this information of the Civil Service website. Trustee Summa asked what the purpose is of a 2 man patrol and 2 cars per shift? Village Administrator Tim Brojer answered these questions by advising Trustee Summa that during the day shift they are normally doing special assignments such as rentals. As per the Board of Trustees, they want 2 officers in a car for safety reasons

during the night shift. Trustee Summa during his inquiries has mentioned several addresses. At this time Attorney Egan interrupts Trustee Summa and cautions Trustee Summa not to mention any properties because they may or may not be subject to investigation, you may or may not be subject to subpoena and you may or may not be subject to be called as a witness. Attorney Egan expressed to Trustee Summa that he identified 3 people that have visited that site and Attorney Egan recommended to Trustee Summa not to discuss in a public meeting any discussion about law enforcement investigations.

***Bayview Park Strategy for clean-up and use** –Trustee Spery asked if the Mayor, Deputy Mayor Busa and Tim Brojer if anything can be done about the park being open by the Village and patrolling the area. Trustee Summa can't see why Village Code Enforcement and the Suffolk County PD can't patrol the area. Deputy Mayor Busa advised Trustee Spery that the Town of Brookhaven owns this park. Trustee Summa feels if the Code Enforcers would drive thru and get rid of all the skinhead Nazi's drinking in there and clean up all the trash. There is nothing preventing Code Enforcement to drive thru there and calling the police. Trustee Summa said this is a quality of life issue. Trustee Summa feels that if the skinhead Nazi's see Code Enforcement and the police drive in there would stop going in there. Trustee Spery just wants to make sure that she is clear on this...that if Code Enforcement see citizens breaking the law, they are allowed to call the police and have them come there. Attorney Egan said that is something the Town Attorney would have to answer that. Mayor Biondi commented saying that it all started with opening and closing the gate. Now you want the Village of Mastic Beach to police the Town of Brookhaven's property and get nothing in return. Mayor Biondi wants the Town of Brookhaven's Code Enforcement to do this. Trustee Spery just wants our parks to be clean and safe. Mayor Biondi feels that there are 3 parcels in the Village and the Town of Brookhaven does not want to invest any money on these parks. Now they want us to open and close them, and drive by them. Mayor Biondi feels everyone should call Dan Panico and Ed Romaine and tell them they should maintain these parks like they do for the rest of the Town of Brookhaven. Trustee Summa feels the Mayor should offer and olive branch to the Town of Brookhaven. Mayor Biondi told Trustee Summa that he and Dan Panico work very well together.

***Receiving 28 parcels from Suffolk County for \$1** - Mayor Biondi does not know anything about this. Suffolk County has offered to give back to the Village 28 parcels for \$1.00 as parkland, not to be developed. Attorney Egan asked if they are vacant now and Trustee Spery said yes and feels it would be a good idea to make community gardens.

Trustee Spery would like to see an Ethics Board formed. Attorney Egan advised we would have to set a Public Hearing tonight.

Mayor Biondi questioned about the Quality of Life Meeting at 8am on Saturday and having an e-blast sent out. The Mayor feels that it should just be the committee members there. Mayor Biondi has a problem with these committees that are being formed. He received an email from a resident saying that someone went onto their property without permission.

Trustee Busa and Trustee Spery feel each committee should have a chairman and co-chair selected by the Board after a predetermined number of members have joined.

Trustee Summa addressed a question to Attorney Egan regarding the Planning Board reviewing all of our permits and you sent back a response to it. Trustee Summa had asked that all permits over 500 feet appear in front of the Planning Board.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Busa and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to enter Executive Session at 8:54 for personnel and litigation matters.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Busa and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to End Executive Session and re-open the Public Meeting at 9:55pm.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Stiriz and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to increase Nick Scalafani's salary from \$13.53 to \$15.19.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Stiriz and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to increase Dylan Munster's salary from \$9.27 to \$14.00.

Upon motion made by Mayor Biondi, seconded by Trustee Sperry and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to End the Monthly Meeting at 10:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Draghi
Village Clerk

June 4, 2014