



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

March 05, 2024, at 7:00 PM

432 Route 306, Wesley Hills, NY 10952

Phone: 845-354-0400 | Fax: 845-354-4097

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marshall Katz, Mayor
Ed McPherson, Deputy Mayor
Yisroel Cherns, Trustee
Milton Schwartz, Trustee

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ruth Ivey, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT:

Benjamin Selig, Esq. Village Attorney (Zoom)
Camille Guido - Downey, Village Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor Katz opened the meeting at 7 pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ITEM #1

RESOLUTION #20-24

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the minutes of February 6, 2024, seconded by Trustee Schwartz. Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Schwartz. Trustee Cherns abstained; this motion was carried.

ITEM #2

RESOLUTION #21-24

RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE APPROVAL OF A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JUNE 1, 2024

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Schwartz:

RESOLVED, that a Public Hearing on the tentative budget of the Village of Wesley Hills for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2024, shall be held before the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills on April 2, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. and that the Village Clerk is hereby directed to arrange for proper publication of a notice of such Public Hearing in the official newspaper of the Village,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the tentative budget of the Village of Wesley Hills for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2024, shall be available at the Village Hall, 432 Route 306, in the Village of Wesley Hills, from March 8, 2024, until April 2, 2024, during the hours of 9 am until 4 pm weekdays, for the purpose of inspection by interested persons.

Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM #3 **RESOLUTION #22-24**
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUPPLEMENTAL CONSULTANT AGREEMENT #1
WITH CREIGHTON & MANNING

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Schwartz:

RESOLVED, that the Supplemental Consulting Agreement submitted by Creighton & Manning for the Willow Tree Road ADA Complaint Sidewalk System, a copy of which is made a part of the minutes of this Board, is hereby accepted, and the Mayor is authorized to indicate the approval and acceptance of such agreement by signing same on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM #4 **RESOLUTION #23-24**
RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ADOPTION OF A LOCAL
LAW AMENDING THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF WESLEY HILLS, TO REVISE THE
ZONING LAW IN RELATION TO FACULTY HOUSING

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Schwartz:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills has decided that there is a need for the regulations of faculty housing at schools in the Village of Wesley Hills, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees has sent the draft local law out for referral to the Planning Board and other agencies, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the Municipal Home Rule Law Section 7-706 of the Village Law, a Public Hearing on the adoption of said proposed Local Law shall be held before the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills on the 16th day of April 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall, 432 Route 306, in the Village of Wesley Hills, at which time citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard with respect to such Local Law,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the notice of said time and place of Public Hearing shall be published and posted by the Village Clerk at least ten (10) days in advance of such time in the manner provided by law.

Discussion:

Mayor Katz stated that he has moved this public hearing to the April 16 workshop to not crowd the April 2 meeting as on that date we have the public hearing for the budget. Board Members agreed.

Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM #5 **RESOLUTION #24-24**

RESOLUTION APPROVING INDEMNIFICATION & HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FOR 3 VANESSA DRIVE

Trustee Schwartz made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee McPherson:

RESOLVED, that the Indemnification and Hold Harmless Agreement between the Village of Wesley Hills and Steven & Shira Teichman, a copy of which is made a part of the minutes of this Board, is hereby accepted, and the Mayor is authorized to indicate the approval and acceptance of such Agreement by signing same on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM #6 **RESOLUTION #25-24**
RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INCREASE IN AIM FUNDING

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee McPherson:

WHEREAS, the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program plays a critical role in funding essential municipal services for cities and villages across New York State, and

WHEREAS, city and village officials share the same priorities as our state leaders which is to make New York safer and more affordable; and

WHEREAS, New York’s local governments, who are on the frontlines of controlling property tax affordability and ensuring public safety, are integral to achieving those goals, and

WHEREAS, the State has not increased AIM funding in 15 years and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has increased by nearly 45% during the same period, and

WHEREAS, this neglect from the State has led to rising municipal tax burdens and harmful disinvestment in essential municipal services and staff; and

WHEREAS, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the services their residents need; and

WHEREAS, the challenges of rising inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid, only accentuate the need for an increase in AIM funding; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s 2024-25 Executive Budget proposes to keep AIM funding flat; and

WHEREAS, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Wesley Hills urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM #7 **RESOLUTION #26-24**
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSED CONTRACT OF FYS COMPUTER CONSULTING WITH THE VILLAGE OF WESLEY HILLS

Trustee Cherns made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee McPherson:

RESOLVED, that the proposed contract renewal between the Village of Wesley Hills and FYS Computer Consulting to provide technical support for the Village of Wesley Hills for the period of June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, a copy of which is made a part of the minutes of this Board, is hereby accepted, and the Mayor is authorized to indicate the approval and acceptance of such proposal by signing same on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM #8
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PLACEMENT OF STOP SIGNS AT SKYLARK DRIVE & HARRIET LANE

Trustee McPherson made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Cherns:

WHEREAS, the Village of Wesley has received several complaints from residents expressing their frustration with vehicles speeding and not yielding to incoming traffic in the area of Skylark Drive and Harriet Lane; and

WHEREAS, the Village Engineer has performed a preliminary review stating that to safely facilitate traffic through the intersection, they are recommending three separate stop signs be installed in the locations noted on the plan dated February 28, 2024, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Wesley Hills approves the installation of three separate stop signs in the location noted on the plan prepared by the Village Engineer dated February 28, 2024, is hereby approved and the Village Clerk Treasurer is authorized to contract with the Town of Ramapo Highway Department for installation of same.

Discussion:

Mayor Katz stated that he would like to get feedback from the residents prior to the approval. Board members agreed and Mayor Katz stated that he will send a letter and report back next month with any residents that have feedback.

ITEM #9 **RESOLUTION #27-24**
RESOLUTION APPROVING ABSTRACTS OF AUDITED CLAIMS

Trustee McPherson made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Cherns:

RESOLVED, that the general fund claims #21617 through #21685 in the aggregate amount of \$148,838.69 as set forth in Abstract #3/24 dated March 5, 2024, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

**ITEM #10
RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

RESOLUTION #28-24

Trustee McPherson made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Trustee Cherns:

RESOLVED, that the transfers in the aggregate amount of \$150,000 as set forth in Abstract #3/24 dated March 5, 2024, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Cherns, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM #11-MAYOR’S REPORTS

Lime Kiln/Wilder Intersection

Mayor Katz stated that Legislator Aaron Wieder has been discussing the 4-way stop sign placement with County Highway Superintendent Vezzetti.

Pomona Heights Speed Bumps

Mayor Katz stated that the Village Engineer has provided the Village with two suggested locations for the placement of speed bumps. Mayor Katz stated that he would like to send a letter to the residents to get their feedback before the Board reviews the Village Engineer’s recommendations and decides. Board Members agreed.

State Sidewalk Funding

Mayor Katz stated that the Town of Ramapo has secured \$8M in funding for sidewalks to be shared between multiple jurisdictions and Wesley Hills is one of them. It is estimated that the Village may receive \$1M in funding to be used to offset the Willow Tree Sidewalks and the Wilder Road sidewalks. Mayor Katz will share more information when it is available.

VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER’S REPORT

Camille Guido-Downey stated that the Village received sixteen complaints last month.

Upcoming Meetings:

- March 26 Workshop Meeting
- April 2 Regular Meeting
- April 16 Regular/Workshop Meeting

Mayor Katz, Trustee Chern and Trustee Schwartz thanked Ed McPherson for his years of service to the Village.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee McPherson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Cherns. Upon vote, Yea: Mayor Katz, Trustee McPherson, Trustee Schwartz, this motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Camille Guido-Downey