

**GENERAL VILLAGE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST HAMPTON DUNES  
Friday July 19, 2024, at 7:30 PM  
in person at 906 Dune Road, West Hampton Dunes  
and via Zoom**

July 19, 2024

Present: Mayor Irwin Krasnow, Trustee Gary Trimarchi, Trustee Gina Mulhearn, Trustee Howard Freedman, Trustee John Eff, Village Attorney Jared Kasschau, Village Attorney Brian Stolar and Sgt. Hennig.

Village Residents Present: Roger Fay, Yale & Sandy Nelson, Stanley Vickers, Sal Mattioli, Jim Cashin, Charlotte Trimarchi, Catherine Woolfson, Robin Laveman, Mark Cappiello and Nina McGinty.

Motion to open the meeting

Motion by: Trustee Mulhearn

Seconded by: Trustee Freedman

All In favor: Yes

Opposed: None

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor's Report:

- Village Finances

The Mayor explained his first days in office were spent trying to get a grasp on all the finances. It was an unusual transition and without the continuity of government, he had to dive in and figure out all the accounts.

It was important to be able to make payroll and fortunately for all the employees he was successful. He has been working to get tax payments into the bank and to transfer funds into the NYCLASS account, where the village earns over 5% of the money invested.

He was able to move hundreds of thousands of dollars into the NYCLASS account.

Other priorities have been to see who has credit cards, gas accounts and the overall spending policies of the village.

- Insurance Requirements

The renewal for the insurance policies for the Village and village vehicles is due on Monday. The policy is about 10% higher than last year, due to industry increases.

- Board of Ethics and Financial Disclosures

Upon coming into office, Mayor Krasnow committed to setting up an ethics board, pursuant to a Village law passed in 2013. Our ethics board consists of a five person by-partisan group of residents:

-Lisa Jacobs

-Catherine Vaczy

-Mary Jane O'Connell

-Rick White

-Catherine Woolfson

We thank them all for volunteering.

All officials and employees will fill out within 30 days of taking office. We are happy to report that all Village officials have completed theirs, as of today.

- Relocating Village Office

Immediately upon taking office, the Mayor received an eviction notice to vacate the Village office at 4 Arthur Street. The previous administration did not request a lease extension, as required in the lease. He is working to move the Village office to 914 Dune Road, and is working with the BBPA to sign a long-term agreement.

The village is seeking to update the technology, especially for the village meetings. Hopefully by the August meeting we will have large screens where the board along with the audience can view and interact together on the zoom call.

- **October 2024 Replenishment**  
FIMP, which is the Fire Island to Montauk Point federal government program, will be starting another beach replenishment in October 2024. They have taken over the previous contract from the Army Corp and DEC which was part of the 30-year settlement.
- **Plover Update**  
Report from the Fish and Wildlife shows 41 eggs hatched and should fledge within two weeks. Please keep dogs on leash to prevent them from disturbing any nests.
- **Tax Bills**  
All tax bills were due on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We have collected around 95% of all taxes. Past due notices were sent out to those who were late. To avoid further late fees, payments need to be received by July 31, 2024.
- **Village Improvement District – VID**  
Stanley Vickers gave a report on the VID. Theresa Mattioli has been working hard on the project has been moving forward with VHB Engineering. They have a proposal they will present shortly and, in the meantime, have been looking for funding through the State.
- **Movie night is Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup> – Kung Fu Panda 4**  
Starts at 7:30 pm at Pikes Beach – a fun family night.  
Complimentary popcorn and candy. Bring your own blankets, chairs, sweatshirt and beverages.
- **Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup> at 5pm** there is the annual BBPA meeting.
- **Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup> at 8pm**, the Southampton Cultural Center is having a showing of the Incredible Journey movie, which was produced by Yale Nelson.
- **Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am** the BBPA is hosting a beach clean-up.

### Treasurer's Report:

- Elizabeth Lindtvit was hired as a part-time Deputy Clerk/ Treasurer. Elizabeth recently retired from the Village of Westhampton Beach and has already been a great asset to our village.
- Trustee Freedman has been working with Liz to complete the May 31, 2023 audit from last year and starting the May 31, 2024 audit from this year. They are waiting on additional information from the previous administration, to finish the audit. Once both audits are completed, they can compare to see where the Village finances stand.
- Trustee Freedman reported that the Mayor has decided not to accept the Police Commissioner salary and has opted out of receiving Village health insurance. Additionally, the Village plans to sell two vehicles: a 2007 and a 2023 Jeep, which were used by the previous Mayor and building inspector. These measures are aimed at generating additional savings to support the overall budget of the Village.

### Constables:

- Sgt Hennig thanked the Mayor and the new board for making the transition smooth for the Constables.
- The Constables are working on updating contact information and would like to get an emergency contact number for every resident.
- The County, who is responsible for each public walkway, has completed repairs to walkways and cut grass surrounding the access.
- Trash bins have been a recent issue. Per the village code, trash bins must be placed inside a garage, under the house or along the side of the house, screened from view. The Constables are not writing tickets, however they are asking everyone to comply.
- There has been an accumulation of old snow fencing wire and other debris at beach access #3. The Mayor has reached out to

Matt Smith, who is the head of the DPW at the Village of Westhampton Beach. We already have an inter-municipal agreement with WHB for street sweeping and snow plowing, and they have agreed to help remove the potentially dangerous piles of debris.

Catherine Woolfson recommended putting up signs that remind people to “cleanup and leave the beaches nicer than you found them.” Mayor Krasnow thought this was not the case with the fencing but agreed that those signs can be a useful reminder to clean up after yourself.

Village Attorney Report:

- Mayor Krasnow introduced Jared Kasschau and Brian Stolar as the new Village attorneys from the firm Harris Beach. They have experience working with other villages and their expertise will be valuable in providing legal guidance and ensuring that the village operates in a compliant manner.

Resolutions:

Trustees Mulhearn and Freedman clarified how the claim voucher system operates within the Village. They explained that bills are processed and paid once a month. This system ensures that each expense is thoroughly reviewed and authorized before payment is made.

Resolution approving the claim vouchers submitted for approval by the Board of Trustees.

Motion by: Trustee Mulhearn  
Seconded by: Trustee Freedman  
All In favor: Yes  
Opposed: None

Resolution waiving the reading of and approving the minutes of the June 14, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting.

Motion by: Trustee Eff  
Seconded by: Trustee Freedman  
All In favor: Yes  
Opposed: None

Resolution authorizing Advance Approval of Claims.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes payments in advance of the audit of claims for public utility services, telephone services, postage, freight, credit card charges and any other reoccurring expenses that might incur a late fee or interest charges. All such claims must be presented at the next regular meeting for audit by the Mayor and the Board of Trustees.

Motion by: Trustee Freedman  
Seconded by: Trustee Mulhearn  
All In favor: Yes  
Opposed: None

Resolution authorizing the sale/disposition of:  
2007 Jeep  
2023 Jeep (the former Mayor vehicle)

Motion by: Mayor Krasnow  
Seconded by: Trustee Freedman  
All In favor: Yes  
Opposed: None

Public Comment:

Trustee Mulhearn complimented the Mayor for digging into his new position, putting in a lot of hours and getting himself up to speed. She also thanked Howard, Jared and Robin for all their hard work.

The Mayor's new cell phone number is 631-560-5437. Residents can feel free to call when needed.

Resident Doug Milles asked what is the relationship between the Village is and the BBPA.

Catherine Woolfson said the Barrier Beach Preservation Association is the deeded owner of both properties 906 Dune Road and 914 Dune Road. They are working to figure out an agreement with the Village for a long-term lease agreement. Catherine offered her phone number 917-553-5753 if anyone had any questions.

Kevin McGinn wanted to know what the situation is with the auditors and if the final audit could be shared and posted on the website. Mayor Krasnow said as soon as the audit is complete, he would be happy to disclose all the information.

Patrick Byrne asked about the beach replenishment – implications for the financial responsibility of the individual homeowners. Mayor Krasnow clarified that the Fire Island to Montauk Project (FIMP), which begins its 50-year replenishment agreement in October 2024, does not currently place any responsibility on individual residents. The Village also collects \$300 from each resident as part of tax bills that goes into a Beach Replenishment fund, which has accumulated over 1 million dollars and is earning interest. Eventually this money will be used to help fund any beach restoration needed that is not covered by FIMP. Mr. Byrne also enquired about recycling in the Village. The waste companies are single stream in Suffolk County and don't pick up recycled separately. It was recommended that individuals could take their recyclable items to the Westhampton transfer station, free of charge.

Jim Cashin who is a Zoning Board member, asked about replacing Irwin's spot on the ZBA board. The Mayor said he is looking to not only replace his position, but to also appoint two alternatives.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 pm

Motion by: Trustee Trimarchi

Seconded by: Trustee Freedman

All In favor: Yes

Opposed: None