

Village of Wesley Hills
Village Board Meeting-March 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order by David Goldsmith, Mayor at 7:03 P.M.

Present: David Goldsmith-Mayor, Ed McPherson-Deputy Mayor, Howard Richman-Trustee, Marion Ben-Jacob-Trustee, Brett Bekritsky-Trustee.

Also Present: Ben Selig-Village Attorney, Barbara Cartaya-Village Clerk.

Yael Ash, Deputy Treasurer of the Village of Wesley Hills requested to speak at this time. Mrs. Ash said that when she was interviewed by the former Mayor, Robert Frankl, for the position that she now holds she told all present at that meeting that she would like to leave early on Fridays to prepare for the Sabbath. At that time an arrangement was agreed to. Mrs. Ash then said that she has been advised by Mayor Goldsmith and the Board of Trustees, that they want Mrs. Ash to work (during daylight savings time) a regular work schedule and when the clocks are turned back Mrs. Ash may again leave on Fridays at 1:00 P.M. making up the time by taking a half hour for lunch on Monday through Thursday, and no lunch on Friday.

Mrs. Ash said that it is inconvenient for her to complete all her tasks before the Sabbath and would like to continue with the way things are now.

Mayor Goldsmith and the board members said that they would advise Mrs. Ash of their decision.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob to approve the following resolution.

RESOLUTION # 11-09

WHEREAS, the minutes of the Board of Trustees of Wesley Hills on February 17, 2009, as submitted by the Village Clerk, be approved, and the reading of such Minutes be waived.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Marion Ben-Jacob-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

The resolution was carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Mayor Goldsmith and the Board members then discussed the Budget and their concerns about the current drop in revenues to the Village. Mayor Goldsmith said that there has been a drop in mortgage tax revenues and sales tax revenues have also dropped due to the economic times.

Mayor Goldsmith then discussed with the Board members the possibility of hiring an outside company for snow plowing and street repair. Mayor Goldsmith said that there are two Villages that are going to go with an outside firm and this will definitely affect the cost (Mayor Goldsmith said that he feels that Ramapo will increase their prices even more) and he would like to look into hiring a private firm to do the work.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob to approve the following resolution.

RESOLUTION # 12-09

RESOLVED, that the revised Village of Wesley Hills Employee Handbook dated September 24, 2008, which became effective, September 24, 2008, be and the same is hereby amended to add new sections numbered 443-Recruitment Hiring and Employment and 444-Retiree hiring Process and the Section 424-Jury Duty, be and the same is hereby amended in accordance with the copies of new sections 443 and 444 and amended Section 424, copies of which are made a part of the Minutes of this Board effective March 18, 2009.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Marion Ben-Jacob-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

The resolution was carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Mayor Goldsmith and the Board members discussed a proposed change in the current parking law. Mayor Goldsmith said that the proposed law would be setting a new minimum fine for overnight parking violations.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob to approve the following resolution.

RESOLUTION #13-09

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills deems it to be in the interest of the Village to consider the enactment of a Local Law amending Local Law No.1 of 1984 "To provide for the regulation of the operation and parking of motor vehicles in the Village of Wesley Hills" as amended by Local Law No. 4 of 1988 and Local law No. 2 of 2003, and

WHEREAS, the Village Attorney, at the request of this Board, has prepared such a proposed Local Law, a copy of which proposed local law is made a part of the Minutes of this Board,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that it is hereby determined that the enactment of such proposed Local Law will not have significant effect on the environment as defined in the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act for the

reason that the only effect of such proposed Local Law will be to restrict the authorization of the Village Clerk to issue all night parking permits during the period of November 1 to April 1, inclusive, and to impose a minimum fine of \$30.00 for a violation of the all night parking restrictions in the Village of Wesley Hills, and therefore such proposed Local Law does not involve any matter having an adverse impact on the environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law, a public hearing on the adoption of such proposed Local Law, entitled A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 1 of 1984 as Amended by Local Law No. 4 of 1988 and Local Law No. 2 of 2003, to revise the Local Law regulating all night parking in the Village by prohibiting the issuance of parking permits by the Village Clerk during the period from November 1 20 April 1, inclusive, and establishing a minimum fine of \$30.00 for a violation of said amended Local Law, shall be held before the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills on the 21st day of April, 2009, at 7:00 P.M. at the Village Hall, 432 Route 306 in the Village of Wesley Hills, at which hearing residents shall have the opportunity to be heard with respect to such proposed Local Law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the notice of the time and place of such public hearing shall be published and posted by the Village Clerk in the manner provided by law.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Marion Ben-Jacob-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

The resolution was carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Ben Selig discussed the pending lawsuit from Tucker Associates. Mr. Selig said that he has worked out a settlement with the law firm that served the suit and that there will be no cost imposed to the Village.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob to approve the following resolution.

RESOLUTION # 14-09

RESOLVED, that the litigation brought by Tucker Associates, Inc., against the Village of Wesley Hills and Stephen Abrams, individually and as Code Enforcement Officer of the Village of Wesley Hills be settled and discontinued pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement, a copy of which Stipulation of Settlement is made a part of the Minutes of this Board and the Village Attorney is hereby authorized to indicate approval of such settlement by signing said Stipulation of Settlement on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills and Stephen Abrams, individually and as Code Enforcement Officer of the Village of Wesley Hills.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Marion Ben-Jacob-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

The resolution was carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Mayor Goldsmith then discussed with the Board members the fact that the Village is submitting to “e-bids” with Orange and Rockland so that we can find a better rate for electric and gas charges.

Mayor Goldsmith discussed a letter that the Village received from Roie Gamil. Mr. Gamil is requesting that the Village permit him to construct pillars in front of his house approximately eight feet from the road. Mayor Goldsmith and the Board members decided to wait on any decision for this request because Mr. Gamil is appearing before the Planning Board for encroachment into the wetlands. Mayor Goldsmith and the Board members want to address all Mr. Gamils concerns at the time he appears before the Village Board for encroachment into the conservation easement.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Ed McPherson to approve the following resolution.

RESOLUTION # 15-09

RESOLVED, that general funds claims #266 through #288 in the aggregate amount of \$224,454.02, as set forth in Abstract # 3/09 dated March 17, 2009, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

The resolution was carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob to approve the following resolution.

RESOLUTION # 16-09

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills has met and considered the tentative budget for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2009, and has conducted a public hearing thereon as required by Section 5-508 of the Village law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the tentative budget as set forth in the copy of such budget annexed hereto and made a part of the minutes of this Board, is hereby adopted and that the several amounts as set forth in the “Adopted” column of such

Budget be and hereby are appropriated for the objects and purposes specified, and the salaries and wages set forth in Schedule 4 of the budget shall be and hereby are fixed at the amounts shown therein effective June 1, 2009.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Marion Ben-Jacob-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

The resolution was carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Ed McPherson to approve the following resolution.

RESOLUTION #17-09

RESOLVED, that a Public Hearing for consideration of the budget for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2009, shall be held at the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills to be held on April 1, 2009, at 7:30 P.M. at the Village Hall, located at 432 Route 306, Wesley Hills, New York.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Marion Ben-Jacob-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

The resolution was carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Marion Ben-Jacob-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

Mayor Goldsmith announced the return of the Board from Executive Session and that no vote was taken during Executive Session.

A motion was made by Howard Richman and seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob to adjourn the meeting.

The following vote was taken: Mayor Goldsmith-yes, Ed McPherson-yes, Howard Richman-yes, Marion Ben-Jacob-yes, Brett Bekritsky-yes.

