

4/2/2020  
BOT

**Village of Wesley Hills  
Board of Trustees  
Board Meeting, Online \*Zoom Meeting  
Tuesday, April 2, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Marshall Katz, Mayor  
Ed McPherson, Deputy Mayor  
Howard Richman, Trustee  
Ruth Ivey, Trustee  
Marion Ben-Jacob, Trustee

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ben Selig, Village Attorney  
Donalee Berard  
Camille Guido-Downey, Village Clerk

Mayor Katz called the meeting to order at 7 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item #1** **Resolution #41-20**  
**Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting: March 3, 2020**

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 3, 2020, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob. Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

**Item #2**  
**Public Hearing on tentative budget**

Mayor Katz questioned if the Village Clerk properly published the public hearing notice.

Village Clerk confirmed.

Howard Richman made a motion to open the public hearing, seconded Ruth Ivey. Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Janice Golda, 16 Martha Road was present and questioned if the Board is considering changes to the proposed budget in light of COVID-19. Ms. Golda suggested eliminating Village Hall renovations and software purchases.

Mayor Katz stated that Ms. Golda sent an email which was previously distributed to the Village Board for their review.

Mayor Katz proposed the following changes to the budget:

- (1) Line item #A 3097 EXTREME WINTER RECOVERY. Mayor Katz stated that as per NYCOM, this funding has been added to the State Budget.

Audio File: [Village of Wesley Hills 4-2-20 Board Meeting](#)

4/2/2020

BOT

- (2) Line item #A 1120-line item COUNTY SALES TAX. Mayor Katz stated that due to COVID-19, NYSAC has provided an estimate of what the Villages can expect as a reduction in County Sales tax and therefore he is proposing to decrease the proposed number from \$110,000 to \$100,000.
- (3) For General Fund Account #A 3005-line item MORTGAGE TAX. Mayor Katz stated that due to COVID-19 he is proposing to decrease this from \$120,000 to \$90,000.
- (4) For General Fund Account #A 1620-line item VILLAGE HALL RENOVATION. Mayor Katz stated that due to COVID-19 he is proposes to decrease this line item to \$0 from the proposed \$20,000 which was for interior painting of Village Hall.
- (5) For General Fund Account #A 7110 the line item PARKS. Mayor Katz stated that due to COVID-19 he recommends eliminating the proposed \$27,000 for the pathway restoration.
- (6) For General Fund Account #A 1990-line item CONTINGENCY FUND. Mayor Katz stated that due to COVID-19 and the option in the State budget to reduce monies committed to municipalities if the State tax collections are short, he proposes to reduce this line by \$25,000 to \$100,000.

Board Members agreed with the Mayor's changes.

Janice Golda, 16 Martha Drive questioned if the Village has any surplus.

Mayor Katz answered yes; in general, the Village budget is conservative, and we spend less and take in more than we budget thus ending up with a surplus.

Mayor Katz stated that with all the proposed changes the Village is proposing a 35% tax reduction.

Janice Golda questioned if any changes were made to the garbage contract based on the garbage survey which would have reduced services and cost. Ms. Golda is concerned as the garbage bill is almost the same as the Village tax bill.

Mayor Katz stated that the survey results were 50/50 and the Village Board did not want to make changes to the contract for services based on those results.

Janice Golda questioned if bulk pickup was reduced was there no significant cost reduction.

Mayor Katz answered that the savings was not enough of a reduction and he can send Janice the survey results should she wish.

Ed McPherson stated that the Village has been coasting through this contract till the end. Our last bid for garbage was hard as the first lowest bidder was disqualified, second was bankrupted and the third lost a lot of money. The advantage for the Village by utilizing the services of the Solid Waste Authority was that they went out for a Request for Proposals which allows them to negotiate pricing and reduce/increase services. The Village dot not legally have that option.

Janice Golda questioned if Wesley Hills is the only municipality with Solid Waste.

Audio File: [Village of Wesley Hills 4-2-20 Board Meeting](#)

4/2/2020

BOT

Mayor Katz answered no, New Hempstead, Nyack, Spring Valley and others.

Ed McPherson added that if the Village did the bid again the price would have been even higher.

Howard Richman made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded Marion Ben-Jacob. Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of the 2020-2021 Village Budget**

### **Resolution #42-20**

Marion Ben-Jacob made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded Howard Richman:

**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, 2020, and has conducted a public hearing thereon as required by Section 5-508 of the Village Law; and

**WHEREAS**, said Board of Trustees has determined that the amounts estimated in the tentative budget are more than required for said fiscal year,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the tentative budget for said fiscal year is hereby revised as follows:

1. For General Fund Account #A 3097-line item EXTREME WINTER RECOVERY is hereby increased by the sum of \$7,891.00, and the total for such account is hereby increased to the sum of \$7,891.00; and
2. For General Fund Account #A 1120-line item COUNTY SALES TAX is hereby decreased by the sum of \$10,000.00, and the total for such account is hereby decreased to the sum of \$100,000.00; and
3. For General Fund Account #A 3005-line item MORTGAGE TAX is hereby decreased by the sum of \$20,000.00, and the total for such account is hereby decreased to the sum of \$90,000.00; and
4. For General Fund Account #A 1620-line item VILLAGE HALL RENOVATIONS is hereby decreased by the sum of \$20,000, and the total for such account is hereby decreased to the sum of \$22,500.00; and
5. For General Fund Account #A 7110 the line item PARKS is hereby decreased by the sum of \$27,000.00, and the total for such account is hereby decreased to the sum of \$26,100.00; and
6. For General Fund Account #A 1990-line item CONTINGENCY FUND is hereby decreased by the sum of \$25,000.00, and the total for such account is hereby decreased to the sum of \$90,000.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, as a consequence of such changes such tentative budget, "Summary of Budget" is hereby revised as follows:

- (1) Total Appropriated Surplus is hereby increased to \$1,983,909.00.
- (2) Balance to be raised by Taxation is hereby decreased to \$891,791.00.

4/2/2020

BOT

(3) Tax Rate is hereby decreased to 7.3618.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the tentative budget as so amended and revised and 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 set forth in the “Tentative Budget” column of such budget be and hereby are appropriated for the objects and purposes specified, and the salaries and wages set forth in the budget shall be and hereby are fixed at the amounts shown therein effective June 1, 2020.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

**Item #3** **Resolution #43-20**  
**Resolution approving the 2020-2021 proposal and fee schedule of Brooker Engineering, PLLC.**

Marion Ben-Jacob made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Ruth Ivey:

**RESOLVED**, that the 2020-2021 Proposal and Fee Schedule for Engineering Consultation Services for the Village of Wesley Hills by Brooker Engineering, PLLC, a copy of which is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, is hereby approved and the Mayor is authorized to indicate approval of such agreement on said document on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

**Item #4** **Resolution #44-20**  
**Resolution authorizing the appointment by the Village Clerk of the Village of Wesley Hills of Village Employees as Election Inspectors**

Marion Ben-Jacob made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Howard Richman:

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No 21-20, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wesley Hills on February 4, 2020 appointed the inspectors of Election at the Village Election to be held on March 18, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, said election has been adjourned to a date as yet to be determined; and

**WHEREAS**, at least two said of the said Appointees have indicated their unavailability to serve in that capacity.

**NOW, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village Clerk of the Village of Wesley Hills is hereby authorized to appoint employees of the Village of Wesley Hills as substitute inspectors of Election; and

4/2/2020

BOT

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Mark Wineglass remain the designated Chairperson of the Inspectors of Elections; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the persons pursuant to this Resolution and/or Resolution No 21-20 shall be compensated at the rate of \$200.00 per day for each inspector and that the Chairperson who serves on Election Day shall receive compensation of \$225.00

Upon vote, this resolution carried unanimously.

**Item #5**

**Resolution #45-20**

**Resolution authorizing a refund to Municipal Data Services for 18 Hastings Lane and 6 Earl Court for cancellation of violation searches.**

Ruth Ivey made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Howard Richman:

**WHEREAS**, Municipal Data Services had requested violation searches with respect to 18 Hastings Lane and 6 Earl Court; and

**WHEREAS**, the request for such violation searches has been withdrawn, and

**WHEREAS**, Municipal Data Services has requested a refund of the fees heretofore paid with respect to such previously requested violation searches,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to refund to said Municipal Data Services the fees previously paid to the Village of Wesley Hills in connection with requested violation searches in the amount of \$300.00.

Upon vote, this resolution carried unanimously.

**Item #6**

**Resolution #46-20**

**Resolution approving proposal of Brooker Engineering, PLLC, for engineering services for preparation of the 2020 annual report for MS4/Municipal Stormwater Sewer Systems and the 2020 Municipal Compliance Certificate.**

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Ruth Ivey:

**RESOLVED**, that the proposal for engineering services of Brooker Engineering, PLLC, for preparation of the 2020 annual report concerning MS4/Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems, and the 2020 MCC/Municipal Compliance Certificate and 2020 Annual Report, a copy of which is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, is hereby approved, and the Mayor is authorized to indicate approval of such proposal on said document on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

**Item #7**

**Resolution #47-20**

Audio File: [Village of Wesley Hills 4-2-20 Board Meeting](#)

4/2/2020

BOT

**Resolution extending all outstanding/open Building Permits as long as NY Pause guidelines halt construction activities**

Marion Ben-Jacob made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Ruth Ivey:

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of the NY Pause guidelines halting construction activity,

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED** that all outstanding/open building permits be and the same are hereby extended as long as the aforementioned NY Pause guidelines halting construction activity remain in place.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

**Item #8  
Resolution approving abstracts of audited claims**

**Resolution #48-20**

Ruth Ivey made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Howard Richman:

**RESOLVED**, that the general fund claims #17238 through #17333 in the aggregate amount of \$90, 974.42 as set forth in Abstract #4/20 dated April 2, 2020, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

**Item #8A  
Resolution approving transfer of funds**

**Resolution #49-20**

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob:

**RESOLVED**, that the transfers in the aggregate amount of \$30,000.00 as set forth in Abstract #4/20 dated April 2, 2020, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

**Item #9  
Mayor's Reports**

Village Free Library Exchange

Mayor Katz stated that he started a library exchange program and has invited residents to participate. The garage has some books and puzzles for residents to use during this time.

Passover Dumpsters

Mayor Katz stated that the Village is still providing Passover dumpsters at Village Hall for the Holiday.

Audio File: [Village of Wesley Hills 4-2-20 Board Meeting](#)

4/2/2020

BOT

### Burn Permits

Mayor Katz stated that the Fire Inspector will be issuing the burn permits to residents for the holiday. Mayor and Board Members stated that the Fire Inspector should be advising residents that the burn permits are not permits to allow social gatherings.

### New Hempstead ZBA Chair, Adam Pollack

Mayor Katz regretfully informed the Board that ZBA Chair Adam Pollack has passed away due to COVID-19.

### Staff-Working from Home

Village Clerk has been organizing IT and phone service for employees to work from home. Mayor Katz stated that currently the Village Clerk is in the office full time and the staff is home. Code Enforcement Officer is working with limited hours.

### Martha Road Parking

Mayor Katz stated that a letter was received from resident Janice Golda in reference to the proposed synagogue on Martha Road requesting no parking signs on Martha Road. Mayor Katz stated that once the Village is fully operational and having the public attend meetings again in person, he will send a letter to the residents of Martha Road inviting them to attend the meeting to discuss the no parking signs.

### Suez-Cost Sharing Agreement

Mayor Katz stated that he has received the cost sharing agreement from Suez and the Village Attorney will review and provide any comments.

### Upcoming Meetings:

April 21	Workshop-Zoom
May 5	Regular Meeting-Zoom
May 19	Workshop-Zoom

### Reorganizational Meeting

Mayor Katz stated that the annual reorganization meeting will take place after the Village Election as per the Governor and the direction of NYCOM. The date of the Election is scheduled for June 2020. As of now, everyone is considered a hold over until such time.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Donalee Berard provided the Village Board with the monthly reports and stated that the Village is doing very well and under target for spending. The Village has received our annual CHIPS, PAVE NY and EWR funds from the State.

### **Village Clerk**

Village Clerk stated that she has been organizing the programming of phones and computers for staff to start working from home along with online training for staff.

### **Village Attorney**

Audio File: [Village of Wesley Hills 4-2-20 Board Meeting](#)

4/2/2020

BOT

Ben Selig requested the Village Clerk to schedule the required work at 419 Route 306.

Howard Richman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob. Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted  
Camille Guido-Downey