

**Village of Wesley Hills
Board of Trustees
Board Meeting-Zoom
Tuesday, December 7, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ben Selig, Village Attorney
Donalee Berard, Treasurer
Camille Guido - Downey, Village Clerk

Mayor Katz called the meeting to order at 7 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Item #1

Resolution #126-21

Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting: November 2, 2021

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the minutes of November 2, 2021, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob. Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #2

Resolution #127-21

Resolution approving a refund to Data Trace for fee previously paid for an onsite violation search with respect to 13 Skylark Drive

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

WHEREAS, on or about November 24, 2021, Data Trace requested a full violation search with respect to 13 Skylark Drive, Wesley Hills, NY and

WHEREAS, on or about said date Data Trace paid to the Village of Wesley Hills a fee in the amount of \$150.00 for said search, and

WHEREAS, said Data Trace later requested only a records search and paid separately for such service, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Clerk is directed to refund to Data Trace the sum of \$150.00.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #3

Resolution #128-21

AMENDING THE VILLAGE'S HEALTH INSURANCE AND MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS AND AMENDING THE VILLAGE'S EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

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

WHEREAS, the Village elected to participate in the New York State Health Insurance Program; and

WHEREAS, the Village adopted the Village's Employee Handbook on September 23, 2008, and it was last amended on May 4, 2021; and

WHEREAS, after a full review of the Village's Medical Plan the Village was advised to reaffirm the Plan and propose any changes; and

WHEREAS, after studying other villages and to treat covered eligible participants comparably and equitably and to correct any flaws in the Village's plan, the Mayor and the Board of Trustees have suggested that the following changes be made to the Village of Wesley Hills New York State Health Insurance Program Plan as described below:

Reaffirming the Existing Medical Plan

- Part time and elected officials can enroll in the Village's medical plan and pay 100% of the premium.
- Full time employees can enroll in the Village's medical plan and the Village will pay 100% of an individual premium, and 35% of the additional cost of a family plan.
- Full time employees who decline the Village's medical plan and provide proof of such insurance from another source may receive a stipend of 25% of the individual premium through a quarterly payroll payment.

Changes to Existing Medical Plan

- No changes proposed for part-time and full-time employees.
- Elected Officials who have served at least four full years may join the Village's medical plan and the Village will pay 50% of an individual premium, and 25% of a family plan.
- Upon reaching the age of 65, the employee is eligible for Medicare benefits, at this time, should employee select NYSHIP as its supplemental plan, the Village will continue to pay the portion of coverage at the same ratios as pre-age 65 full & part time levels.

- Should the employee choose not to apply for Medicare benefits, the amount the Village will cover is the ratio of the amount for the supplemental premium and the balance will be paid by the employee.
- Existing employees over age 65 will be grandfathered with reimbursement at full time rates.

Proposed Post-Retirement Medical Benefit

- Full-Time – Employees employed by the Village of Wesley Hills for fifteen consecutive years are entitled to the following medical plan benefit:
 - Employee must have been a member of the Village of Wesley Hill's Medical Plan for one full year at the date of retirement.
 - Employee must have been a member of the New York State Retirement System and collecting a pension.
 - Retiree may continue in the Village medical plan and the Village will pay 65% of the premium for individual coverage and 25% of the premium for a family plan.
 - Upon reaching age 65, the retiree no longer gets Village paid coverage. Retiree can choose to remain in the Village's Medical Plan and pay 100% of the premium.

Medicare Reimbursement after Retirement

When a full-time retiree becomes eligible for Medicare benefits at age 65, the following conditions apply for the retiree to receive reimbursement of Medicare Insurance Premiums paid:

- Retiree must be a member of the New York State Retirement System and collecting a pension.
- Retiree must have been a member of the Village of Wesley Hill's Medical Plan for one full year at the date of retirement.
- Reimbursement will be paid annually in January for the number of months worked in the previous calendar year.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Wesley Hills approves the proposed changes to the medical plan and the employee handbook and requests the Village Clerk to incorporate such plan changes into the Employee Handbook and amend the documents with the Village's medical provider.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village's Employee Manual is hereby amended to incorporate the above sections; Reaffirming the Existing Medical Plan, Changes to Existing Medical Plan, Proposed Post-Retirement Medical Benefit, and Medicare Reimbursement after Retirement into the existing Village employee handbook.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all the proposed changes are to be approved by NYSHIP.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the changes will take effect retroactively to January 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is authorized to sign all documents related to the changes.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #4 **Resolution #129-21**
Resolution allocating funding from the 2022-2023 Village Budget for interior renovations to the Village Hall

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

WHEREAS, State Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick has awarded the Village of Wesley Hills a DASNY grant in the amount of \$55,000.00 which will be reimbursed to the Village and to be used towards the Village Hall interior renovation project, and

WHEREAS, the Village estimates that the total project will cost approximately \$155,000.00, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees wishes to allocate \$155,000.00 from the Village surplus account to cover said costs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Wesley Hills approves the allocates the sum of \$155,000.00 for interior renovations to the Village Hall and directs the Treasurer to make the budget changes as requested.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the Village of Wesley Hills is authorized to obtain proposals for the architectural plans, bid documents for the proposed project.

Discussion:

Mayor Katz stated that the Village is pleased that State Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick was able to secure a \$55,000.00 grant for the Village. Mayor Katz stated that the Village has reduced the project in size to ensure that we complete the project within a year and keep costs down. The original budget amount was \$387,000 and now we are proposing \$155,000.00. We have eliminated the community room office renovation and the Justice Court door change. Board Members are in favor of this reduction in project size and the proposed cost.

BOT
12/7/2021

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #5
Resolution approving abstracts of audited claims

Resolution #130-21

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

RESOLVED, that the general fund claims #18929 through #19104 in the aggregate amount of \$124,122.10 as set forth in Abstract #12/21 dated December 7, 2021, 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 #6
Mayor's Reports

Terrace Road Subdivision

Mayor Katz stated that he has spoken to Frank Brown about the walking paths that the subdivision will be donating to the Village. The Village will be responsible for maintenance of those pathways.

Treasurer's Report

Donalee Berard stated that the Village is on track for revenue and expenses so far this year. Ms. Berard stated that the escrow accounts need to be collected upon.

Village Clerk's Report

Village Clerk stated that the Village received 58 complaints this month and we have been hovering around that number each month. The Building Department is busy as there are 355 open permits at the current time.

Executive Session

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

No action was taken during executive session.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Camille Guido-Downey