

**MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF THOMASTON
APRIL 17, 2023**

The Board of Trustees met on Monday, April 17, 2023 at the Village Hall, 100 East Shore Road, Great Neck, New York at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Steven Weinberg, Trustee Jay W. Chagrin, Trustee Aaron Halpern, Trustee Nancy Sherman, and Trustee Burton S. Weston

Absent: None

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Mayor Weinberg welcomed newly elected Trustee, Nancy Sherman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLUTION 23-40

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Trustee Halpern, and approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings held on March 30, 2023 and April 10, 2023 are hereby approved and accepted as presented.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye
	Trustee Halpern:	Aye	Trustee Sherman:	Abstain
	Trustee Weston:	Aye		

ELECTION:

The Village Clerk read the canvass of election of March 21, 2023, as follows:

Mayor:

Steven Weinberg	123 votes
Nancy Sherman	7 votes
Steven Gavaris	3 votes
Lauren O'Neill	1 vote
Aaron Halpern	1 vote
Karen Weisberg	1 vote

Trustee (two to be elected):

Burton S. Weston	97 votes
Nancy Sherman	68 votes
Karen Siegel	57 votes

Gary Noren	2 votes
Wendy Fiel	1 vote
Justin Maze	1 vote
Ming Cao	1 vote
Will Cheng	1 vote

Each duly elected candidate had already been sworn in and signed and filed the required oath of office.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS:

DEPUTY MAYOR/DIRECTOR OF PATV:

The Mayor appointed Burton Weston as Deputy Mayor and Robert Schaufeld as Director of Public Access Television Corporation.

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL:

The Mayor made the following appointments, for indeterminate terms at the pleasure of the Mayor, except as otherwise noted:

Commissioner of Cable Television and Representative to the Cable Commission	Robert Schaufeld
Emergency Coordinator	Steven Weinberg Burton Weston
Village Administrator	Denise M. Knowland
Superintendent of Public Works	William Mazurkiewicz
Village Historian	Leila Mattson
Chair and Member of the Design Review Board (1 yr.)	Ruchira Madan
Member of the Design Review Board (1 yr.)	Robert Schaufeld
Member of the Design Review Board (1 yr.)	Lawrence Levy
Member of the Design Review Board (1 yr.)	Carol Adams
Member of the Design Review Board (1 yr.)	Robert Meyer
Chair and Member of the Landmarks Preservation Commission (1 yr.)	Donald Stern
Vice Chair and Member of the Landmarks Preservation Commission (1 yr.)	Leila Mattson
Member of the Landmarks Preservation Commission (1 yr.)	Julie Georgopoulos
Member of the Landmarks Preservation Commission (1 yr.)	Miriam Chatinover
Member of the Landmarks Preservation Commission (1 yr.)	Gary Noren
Chair and Member of the Tree Board (1 yr.)	Lea Caplan
Member of the Tree Board (1 yr.)	Mal Weinberg
Member of the Tree Board (1 yr.)	Dana Samuel

Member of the Tree Board (1 yr.)	Karen Weisberg
Member of the Tree Board (1 yr.)	Qiping Zhang
Registrar of Vital Statistics	North Hempstead Town Clerk

RESOLUTION 23-41

Upon motion of Trustee Chagrín, seconded by Trustee Halpern, and approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that all the appointments indicated above are hereby approved.

The vote on this resolution was: Mayor Weinberg: Aye Deputy Mayor Weston: Aye
Trustee Chagrín: Aye Trustee Halpern: Aye
Trustee Sherman: Aye

BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Weinberg recommended the re-appointment of Michael Nikrooz to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Deputy Chair and Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals (5 yrs.)	Michael Nikrooz
-----------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------

RESOLUTION 23-42

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Trustee Chagrín, and approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Michael Nikrooz as Deputy Chair and member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term of five (5) years is hereby approved.

The vote on this resolution was: Mayor Weinberg: Aye Deputy Mayor Weston: Aye
Trustee Chagrín: Aye Trustee Halpern: Nay
Trustee Sherman: Aye

Mayor Weinberg recommended the re-appointment of Karen Weisberg and appointment of Andrew Kagan for terms as noted:

Member of the Ethics Board (3 yrs.)	Karen Weisberg
Member of the Ethics Board (remaining 2 yrs. on vacant seat)	Andrew Kagan

RESOLUTION 23-43

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Trustee Chagrín, and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that all appointments indicated above are hereby approved.

The vote on this resolution was: Mayor Weinberg: Aye Deputy Mayor Weston: Aye
Trustee Chagrín: Aye Trustee Halpern: Aye
Trustee Sherman: Aye

RETAINING OF VILLAGE ATTORNEY AND SPECIAL COUNSEL

The Mayor appointed A. Thomas Levin as Village Attorney.

RESOLUTION 23-44

On motion of Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Trustee Chagrin, the following resolution were adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Thomaston hereby approves the Mayor's appointment of A. THOMAS LEVIN, as Village Attorney, to serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the compensation for the services of the Village Attorney for retainer legal services (all legal services required by the Village other than legal services in connection with litigation matters, or Village acquisition or sale of real estate) to be performed by the Village Attorney or under his direction shall be \$310 per hour, plus reimbursement of all reasonable and necessary disbursements incurred in connection with the performance of such retainer legal services, which sums will be billed to the Village monthly through Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein P.C., and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby retains MEYER, SUOZZI, ENGLISH & KLEIN, P.C. as special counsel to the Village, to serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees for non-retainer legal services, the services of such special counsel to be compensated at the rate of \$310 per hour, plus reimbursement of all reasonable and necessary disbursements incurred in connection with the performance of such non-retainer legal services, which sums shall be billed to the Village monthly.

The vote on this resolution was: Mayor Weinberg: Aye Deputy Mayor Weston: Aye
Trustee Chagrin: Aye Trustee Halpern: Aye
Trustee Sherman: Nay

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

RESOLUTION 23-45

On motion of Trustee Chagrin, seconded by Trustee Chagrin, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees designates the second Monday in each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall, 100 East Shore Road, Great Neck, as the time and place for the regular meetings of the Board of Trustees. The annual organizational meeting shall be held on the second Monday in April or on such other date in April as the Board of Trustees may determine in accordance with applicable law. The Clerk is directed to advise the news media of this schedule, and to post notice of each meeting, as required under the Open Meetings Law. For special meetings, notice will be provided to the extent required by law.

And it is further

RESOLVED, that because the date for the first regular meeting in October (October 9, 2023) falls on a legal holiday, the date of such meeting is hereby changed to October 11, 2023.

And it is further

RESOLVED, that the date for the November 13, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is hereby changed to November 21, 2023, to coincide with the statutory meeting date of the Board of Review.

The vote on this resolution was: Mayor Weinberg: Aye Deputy Mayor Weston: Aye
Trustee Chagrin: Aye Trustee Halpern: Aye
Trustee Sherman: Aye

OFFICIAL BANKS

RESOLUTION 23-46

On motion of Trustee Halpern, seconded by Deputy Mayor Weston, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED to designate the following depositories for Village funds (which depositories may be changed from time to time by resolution of the Board):

First National Bank of Long Island	Maximum Deposit \$5,000,000
Capital One Bank	Maximum Deposit \$5,000,000
Bank of America	Maximum Deposit \$5,000,000
Flushing Bank	Maximum Deposit \$5,000,000

Provided that each of such depositories holding funds in excess of \$250,000 pledges securities to the Village as collateral pursuant to a collateral agreement or letters of credit issued in favor of the Village by the Federal Home Loan Bank in accordance with the provisions of the General Municipal Law, and in a form approved by the Village Attorney, and it is further

RESOLVED, that all instruments authorizing withdrawal or payment from any such accounts shall be signed by any two of the following: the Mayor, the Village Administrator, or the Deputy Mayor.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Deputy Mayor Weston:	Aye
	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye	Trustee Halpern:	Aye
	Trustee Sherman:	Aye		

UNDERTAKINGS FOR VILLAGE SIGNATORIES

RESOLUTION 23-47

Upon motion of Trustee Sherman, seconded by Trustee Chagrin, and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED that the Village shall purchase undertakings, at Village expense, as required by Village Law Section 3-306 as follows: A Public Employees Blanket Position Bond with coverage limit for dishonesty limit of \$100,000, Forgery or Alteration with a limit of \$50,000 and Computer and Funds Transfer Fraud in the amount of \$100,000. This bond covers all employees of the Village including the Treasurer, Clerk treasurer, clerk and non-compensated officers and employees.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Deputy Mayor Weston:	Aye
	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye	Trustee Halpern:	Aye
	Trustee Sherman:	Aye		

MILEAGE ALLOWANCE - OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER POLICIES, ETC.

RESOLUTION 23-48

On motion of Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Trustee Sherman, and unanimously approved, the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees has determined to pay a fixed rate for mileage as reimbursement to officers and employees of the Village who use their personal automobiles while performing their official duties on behalf of the Village, and it is further

RESOLVED that for the 2023-2024 official year, the Board of Trustees sets the mileage reimbursement rate at the prevailing Internal Revenue Service mileage reimbursement rate, and it is further

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees designates The Great Neck Record as the official newspaper of the Village, and it is further

RESOLVED that the Procurement Policy, adopted October 17, 2016, is readopted, and it is further

RESOLVED that the Investment Policy, adopted March 12, 2018, is readopted, and it is further

RESOLVED, that notwithstanding the foregoing, and pursuant to Village Law §5-524(5), the following claims may be paid without prior audit and approval by the Board of Trustees:

- (a) fixed salaries;
- (b) debt service;
- (c) amounts becoming due upon lawful contracts for periods exceeding one year;
- (d) compensation for services of employees or officers regularly engaged by the Village at agreed wages by the hour, day, week, month or year;

provided, however, that with respect to items (a) and (d) in this paragraph, no such payment shall be made unless the payroll or other claim for compensation for personal services rendered to the Village by any person other than an elective Village officer shall be certified by the Village officer or employee having direct supervision of the claimant to the effect that such services were actually performed by the person or persons mentioned therein; and it is further

RESOLVED, that notwithstanding the foregoing and pursuant to Village Law §5-524(6), the following claims may be paid in advance of audit and approval of the Board of Trustees, provided such claims are presented for audit and approval at the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees:

- (a) public utility services;
- (b) postage;
- (c) freight and express charges;
- (d) charges for expenses incurred with the approval of the Board of Trustees where there is a discount for timely payment and audit of such claims is not feasible prior to the date for such discounted payment; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the policies adopted by this resolution shall be reviewed at each ensuing organizational meeting of the Board of Trustees, and shall remain in effect until amended by resolution of the Board of Trustees at any duly convened meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Deputy Mayor Weston:	Aye
	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye	Trustee Halpern:	Aye
	Trustee Sherman:	Aye		

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MANHASSET BAY PROTECTION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION 23-49

Upon motion of Trustee Halpern, seconded by Deputy Mayor Weston, and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that Karen Siegel is designated as representative to the Manhasset Bay Protection Committee for the Village of Thomaston.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Deputy Mayor Weston:	Aye
	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye	Trustee Halpern:	Aye
	Trustee Sherman:	Aye		

PROPOSAL FOR SMALL CLAIMS/CERTIORARI CONSULTING SERVICES

The Board reviewed a proposed agreement from Michael Haberman Associates, Inc. to act as consultant to the Village for Small claims Assessment Review (SCAR) and tax certiorari proceedings for a period of one year.

RESOLUTION 23-50

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Trustee Chagrin, and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the consulting agreement with Michael Haberman Associates, Inc., and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor is authorized, on behalf of the Village, to execute said agreement.

A copy of the executed agreement is on file at the village office.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Deputy Mayor Weston:	Aye
	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye	Trustee Halpern:	Aye
	Trustee Sherman:	Aye		

PUBLIC HEARING – 2023 Vigilant Contract Fire Protection and Ambulance Service Contract

At 8:27 p.m. Mayor Weinberg opened the public hearing on the proposed 2023 contract for fire protection and emergency ambulance service provided by the Vigilant Engine & Hook & Ladder Co., Inc. for the portion of the Village of Thomaston north of the LIRR tracks

There was a brief period of discussion amongst from the Board. Andrew Cronson, a member of the public inquired about Vigilant’s current response times and plans to address an increase in calls in the event of population growth.

The Board wishing to have a representative from Vigilant present during the public hearing, continued the hearing:

RESOLUTION 23-51

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Trustee Halpern, and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the public hearing on the 2023 Vigilant Fire Protection and Emergency Ambulance Service Contract is hereby continued to May 8, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Deputy Mayor Weston:	Aye
	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye	Trustee Halpern:	Aye
	Trustee Sherman:	Aye		

NYCLASS INVESTMENTS

RESOLUTION 23-52

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Trustee Halpern, and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Administrator to make the following investments in the Village’s NYCLASS Account:

- \$900,000 from the Disbursement Account
- \$300,000 from the Truck Account
- \$100,000 from the Repair Reserve Account

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Deputy Mayor Weston:	Aye
	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye	Trustee Halpern:	Aye
	Trustee Sherman:	Aye		

REFUNDS

RESOLUTION 23-53

Upon motion of Trustee Halpern, by seconded by Trustee Sherman, and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the refunds, in the aggregate amount of \$22.54 (as itemized on the Abstract of Refunds dated Monday, April 17, 2023), are hereby approved for payment, all allocated to the General Fund.

A copy of the approved voucher list is attached to these minutes.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye
	Trustee Halpern:	Aye	Trustee Siegel:	Aye
	Trustee Weston:	Aye		

VOUCHERS

RESOLUTION 23-54

Upon motion of Mayor Weinberg, by seconded by Trustee Chagrin, and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the vouchers, in the aggregate amount of \$38,018.07 (as itemized on the Abstract of Vouchers dated Monday, April 17, 2023), are hereby approved for payment, all allocated to the General Fund.

A copy of the approved voucher list is attached to these minutes.

The vote on this resolution was:	Mayor Weinberg:	Aye	Trustee Chagrin:	Aye
	Trustee Halpern:	Aye	Trustee Siegel:	Aye
	Trustee Weston:	Aye		

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:53 p.m., there being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Deputy Mayor Weston, seconded by Mayor Weinberg, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise M. Knowland
Village Administrator

VILLAGE OF THOMASTON								
AUDITED REFUNDS								
March 13 through April 17, 2023								
	Type		Date		Num	Name		Amount
	Check		04/17/2023			CORE LOGIC		-22.54
								-22.54
	TOTAL							-22.54

**VILLAGE OF THOMASTON
AUDITED VOUCHERS**

March 31 through April 17, 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Amount
Check	03/31/2023	ACH	MICHAEL F. MCNERNEY ARCHITECT PLLC	-1,500.00
Check	04/03/2023	4195	VERIZON WIRELESS	-62.48
Check	04/03/2023	4196	OPTIMUM	-11.00
Check	04/14/2023	ACH	MICHAEL F. MCNERNEY ARCHITECT PLLC	-1,531.25
Check	04/17/2023	4199	STAPLES CONTRACT & COMMERCIAL	-142.19
Check	04/17/2023	4200	ANTON COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS	-53.30
Check	04/17/2023	4201	JORDAN ASSOCIATES	-405.00
Check	04/17/2023	4202	GENERAL WELDING SUPPLY CORP	-15.00
Check	04/17/2023	4203	BUSINESS CARD	-47.48
Check	04/17/2023	4204	BUSINESS CARD	-1,250.32
Check	04/17/2023	4205	FINE DETAILING	-200.00
Check	04/17/2023	4206	LI SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS, INC	-175.00
Check	04/17/2023	4207	WEX BANK	-674.84
Check	04/17/2023	4208	MEYER, SUOZZI, ENGLISH & KLEIN, P.C.	-2,340.00
Check	04/17/2023	4209	HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES	-212.63
Check	04/17/2023	4210	WATER AUTHORITY OF GREAT NECK NORTH	-1,528.10
Check	04/17/2023	4211	PSEGLI	-309.98
Check	04/17/2023	4212	PSEGLI	-11.79
Check	04/17/2023	4213	NYS EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE	-9,049.75
Check	04/17/2023	4214	EIGHTH STREET DESIGNS, INC	-468.00
Check	04/17/2023	4215	ATLANTIC SALT	-4,329.03
Check	04/17/2023	4216	LOOKS GREAT SERVICES INC	-8,275.00
Check	04/17/2023	4217	WATER AUTHORITY OF GREAT NECK NORTH	-45.27
Check	04/17/2023	4218	TOWN OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD	-1,800.00
Check	04/17/2023	4219	NATIONAL GRID	-765.05
Check	04/17/2023	4220	NATIONAL GRID	-279.75
Check	04/17/2023	4221	NATIONAL GRID	-615.17
Check	04/17/2023	4222	NATIONAL GRID	-420.17
Check	04/17/2023	4223	ROMA HORTICULTURE INC.	-766.67
Check	04/17/2023	4224	AUTO BARN	-26.85
Check	04/17/2023	4225	SANTELLI & SONS, INC.	-500.00
Check	04/17/2023	4226	JORDAN ASSOCIATES	-207.00
				-
				38,018.07
TOTAL				38,018.07