

A Village Board Work Session Meeting was held on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, New York.

PRESENT:

Mayor Joseph Bucco, Deputy Mayor Paul Lang, Trustees Richard Calore, Diane Mack and Valerie Laudato.

ALSO PRESENT:

Village Clerk Christine Shenkman, Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) Superintendent Christopher Martino and Village Police Chief Brian Zaccaro.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Joseph Bucco led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MAYOR JOSEPH BUCCO - ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Second Annual Easter Bonnet Parade and Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 31 from 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. at L. Vernon Allen Park. Rain date will be Sunday, April 1st at 11:00 A.M.

The Washingtonville Scholarship Run will be held on Saturday, April 7 at 8:00 A.M. at Washingtonville High School.

The Washingtonville Little League is celebrating their 60th Anniversary Season, and Opening Day Ceremonies and Parade will be held on Saturday, April 14 at 9:00 A.M.

Sunday, April 29 the Senior Citizen Prom will be held at Washingtonville Senior High School.

Village Tax Bills will be mailed this week to all Village residents, and property owners. There was no tax increase, and taxes were lowered this fiscal year.

The Village sweeper for the Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) will be ordered tomorrow, Tuesday, March 6. Plans will be unveiled later this month regarding improvements at L. Vernon Allen Park, and the Village will be receiving a Grant from Assemblyman James Skoufis to be utilized at the Park.

Mayor Bucco stated the Village has made approximately \$90,000 in loan payments this week for the Village Hall building, and Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) construction project. A payment was also made earlier in the month for the 2006 Well Water Bond.

The Village Hall Regular Meeting will be changed from March 20 to March 13 at 7:00 P.M. due to Village Election Day.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONTINUATION - INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW – “REGULATING CERTAIN SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT”:

Mayor Bucco stated the Public Hearing regarding the above entitled proposed Introductory Local Law originally opened on Tuesday, February 20 will continue.

Ryan Irwin, Project Developer for Community Energy Solar LLC stated that the following comments were submitted to the Village Board and Village Counsel regarding the proposed Introductory Solar Energy Local Law.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONTINUATION - INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW – “REGULATING CERTAIN SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT” – (CONTINUED):

- 1. Section 175-91.3F(A) regarding fencing. Per National Electric Code 110.31 Enclosure of Electrical Installations, installations of this voltage require a minimum fence height of seven (7) feet. We respectfully request that the required minimum fence height be seven (7) feet instead of eight (8) feet.**
- 2. Section 175-91.3F(A)(1) regarding fencing. The proposed Local Law specifies a single type of fencing to be used. Given the large setbacks and availability of other suitable fence types, we respectfully request that “other suitable materials as approved by the Board of Trustees” be added.**
- 3. Section 175-91.3F(A)(3) regarding fencing setbacks. We respectfully request that the setback for fencing of 1000’/500’ from any road be reduced to provide for a setback for fencing of 500’ (which could be reduced to 250’) from any “public” road. This would still offer significant distance and visual mitigation benefits and allow for orderly development. In our experience, the typical maximum setback in other Municipalities is 100’ when a project is adjacent to a residential property. Even with the suggested reduction, the reduced setback provides significant buffer far in excess of those typically adopted.**
- 4. Section 175-91.3F(C) regarding percentage of a parcel of property permitted for use as a Solar Farm or Solar Power Plant. There is an incongruity with regard to the sixty (60) acre minimum parcel size limitation in Section 175-91.3F(B), and the fifteen (15%) percent solar use limitation in 175-91.3F(C) A maximum twenty (20) acre Solar Farm on a minimum sixty (60) acre parcel amounts to thirty-four (34%) percent parcel coverage. We respectfully submit that the limitation of fifteen (15%) percent be increased to at least thirty-four (34%) percent to align with provision B (allowing a twenty (20) acre Solar Farm on a sixty (60) acre parcel).**
- 5. Section 175-91.3F© regarding aggregation of parcels. In keeping with the first sentence of this provision and the intent of this provision, we respectfully submit that the limitation for a combined parcel to not exceed twenty (20) acres be revised to allow a Solar Farm or Solar Power Plant not to exceed twenty (20) acres on a combined parcel.**

Deputy Mayor Paul Lang stated there were matters discussed at the previous Solar Energy Farm Public Hearing regarding grandfather clause applicability, and fire safety issues that have not been addressed in the proposed Local Law.

Audience member Rebecca Eileen questioned how does the proposed Local Law benefit Village residents, and Mayor Bucco responded power may be bought at discounted rates.

Mayor Bucco will contact Village Attorney William Frank to receive answers to audience questions prior to the March 13, 2018 Village Board Meeting.

Trustee Calore made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lang and adopted to authorize the continuation of the Solar Energy Public Hearing; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board.

RESOLUTION – PAYMENT OF INVOICES:

Mayor Bucco stated there are November 2017 Invoices from TAM Enterprises Inc. that have not been paid, and requested the Village Board to sign vouchers and bills.

WASHINGTONVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE VENDOR EVENT:

Mayor Bucco announced that Washingtonville Little League will be sponsoring a Vendor event after Opening Day Ceremonies and Parade on Saturday, April 14, 2018 at Fulton Square, 7 Depot Street from 11:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Audience member Sean Hegarty of 4 Belvoir Drive commented that to date the fire hydrant knocked down on Ahern Boulevard several months ago still has not been repaired. Mayor Bucco explained he will be meeting with Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) Superintendent Christopher Martino and Village Police Chief Brian Zaccaro to discuss repair and flushing of fire hydrants.

Rebecca Akers of 8 Exeter Court indicated a resident on Decker Drive is cutting down trees for firewood, and Mayor Bucco explained that Chief Zaccaro indicated he is addressing this matter.

Terry Hughes of 102 Capital Drive said the Village needs to repair the numerous potholes on Village streets, and suggested the Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) should purchase mulching equipment to dispose of leaves in the Village.

Audience member Thomas DeVinko of 7 Maple Court questioned when will the Village receive the Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) street sweeper, and Mayor Bucco responded the preliminary Inter-Municipal Agreement has been signed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Calore made a motion, seconded By Deputy Mayor Lang and adopted to adjourn the March 5, 2018 Village Board Work Session Meeting; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

CHRISTINE SHENKMAN

VILLAGE CLERK