

GENERAL VILLAGE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST HAMPTON DUNES
Saturday April 20, 2024, at 12 PM in person at 914 Dune Road,
West Hampton Dunes and via Zoom

April 20, 2024

Present: Mayor Gary Vegliante, Trustee John Eff. Trustee Harvey Gessin,
Trustee Gary Trimarchi, Trustee Michael Craig, Clerk-Robin Santora, Village
Attorney Joseph Prokop, Village Treasurer Claire Vegliante, Sgt. Brian Hennig,
Stenographer Amy Thomas

Residents – 692 Dune Rd Sylvain Mirochnikoff, 790A Dune Rd Charles Lippert,
853 Dune Rd Ken Goldberg, 929 Dune Rd Irwin Krasnow, Robin Laveman,
Sara Covelli, Yale & Sandy Nelson, 951A Dune Rd Vincent & Ellen Battipaglia,
953B Dune Rd Jim Cashin

Meeting called to order 12:18 pm
Pledge of Allegiance

Opened Public Hearing on 738-742 Dune Road Subdivision

Motion to adjourn public hearing 738-742 Dune Road subdivision until next
meeting.

Motion by: Michael Craig

Second by: John Eff

All in favor: Yes

None: opposed

Opened Public Hearing

Public Hearing on a Proposed Local Law of 2023, the Title of which is “Local
Law No. of 2024, a Local Law Amending Chapter 560, Table 560B,
Dimensional Regulations in the Residential Zone of the West Hampton Dunes
Village Code to Change 2 Story Limit to 3 Story Limit.”

Three definitions need to be changed in our code:

1. How a story is defined
2. A story above grade
3. Basement changed in State code

It is the internal structure of the house that would be changed from two stories
to three stories. This does not change the outside dimensions of a house, the
exterior will remain the same. It only effects the definition of stories within the
envelope that already exists by our zoning.

The Public Hearing is open for discussion at this time and will continue to next month.

Motion to adjourn public hearing on a local law of 2024 amending Chapter 560 attachment table of dimensions of residential properties from two stories to three stories until May 2024 Board of Trustees meeting.

Motion by Gary Trimarchi
Second by John Eff
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

Budget Hearing

Motion to open the Budget meeting
Motion by John Eff
Second by Harvey Gessin
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

Mayor Vegliante reads and explains an overview of the 2024-2025 Tentative Budget.
Public comment was taken. Resident Sylvain Mirochnikoff from 692 Dune Road objected to the mayor's salary. Mirochnikoff believes his salary is not justified for the size of this Village compared to other Villages around. Joe Prokop explained that you cannot compare other Villages "apples to apples". The infrastructure in this Village is set up differently from other Villages that have a large support staff. Overall, our Village office operates on a small salary.

The total increase in budget had a slight increase of .0004%
The budget is available online or in our office for viewing and comments.

Motion to close public hearing
Motion by Harvey Gessin
Second by Gary Trimarchi
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

Motion to accept the Budget
Motion by Harvey Gessin
Second by Gary Trimarchi
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

Mayor Report:

- Plover: Fencing went up for the plovers the first week of April. Residents have gotten consideration for access to the beach. If you have not gotten access to the beach, you can email or call the village office and we can forward the information to Fish & Wildlife for consideration of a pathway to the beach.
- Election: The upcoming election is Friday June 21, 2024. It is the third Friday in June, and it will be held at 914 Dune Road from 12 noon – 9 pm. Positions open for re-election are:
 - Mayor – term of four (4) years (July 1, 2024 – July 3, 2028)
 - Trustee– term of four (4) years (July 1, 2024 – July 3, 2028)
 - Trustee– term of four (4) years (July 1, 2024 – July 3, 2028)
 - Village Justice – term of four (4) years (July 1, 2024 – July 3, 2028)

Filing of petitions can begin six (6) weeks before the election. Can check the Board of Election website for any further information.

You can vote one of (3) three ways. You must be a registered voter in the Village of West Hampton Dunes

1. In-person
2. Early Mail-in Ballot
3. Absentee Ballot

- Tax Bills: Tax bills will be out at the beginning of May. Please notify the village office if you have a change in mailing address.
- Movie Night: Annual WHD movie night is scheduled for Saturday July 27, 2024 – Movie TBD.
- NYCOM: The Mayor will be attending the annual NYCOM Executive Committee meeting May 15-17th.
- Road flooding West end of Village: The mayor is trying to work with the Commissioner of Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Charlie Bartha to help fund the road repair. Flooding is due to both rain and tide conditions. The road will need to be raised, which is quite costly. The village will need to get bids to acquire a new engineering report.
- Renourishment: Scheduled for the fall. We received the maps and were not satisfied with what it was showing. Unfortunately, the beach was surveyed before the recent storms, so it needs to be resurveyed. We have written the Army Corp a letter and have asked them to come back to reassess and resurvey the beach.
- Annexation: The Village is looking to fill in the entire unincorporated area, excluding the multiple dwelling places in between, roughly 50 houses. The purpose for these homes to join our incorporated village is

so they can enjoy the same services that are provided to the village. The benefit to the Village is it will increase the assessment base which in turn will increase the tax base. Need to petition and get signatures.

- Summer Construction: The mayor would like to get a law put into effect constricting early morning construction hours. Other restrictions could apply to construction equipment and dumpster deliveries limiting the time of day they can be dropped off. Please email any ideas to the village office or call the office.
- Westhampton Ambulance: Westhampton Ambulance is looking to store ATV's and other equipment at 914 Dune Road.
- VID: Trustee Trimarchi spoke about the current VID project. They have done the first walk through – took photos and walked the properties.
- DOS meeting in Albany: Mayor Vegliante, John McAlary the building inspector, Trustee Harvey Gessin and attorney Joe Prokop went to Albany to have a meeting with Secretary of State Rob Rodrigues and Mark Patterson. Constructive meeting discussing the villages three- and four-story issues along with the propane tank concerns. The Department of States attorneys are willing to work with Joe Prokop and David Yaffee to help resolve any ongoing issues.

Treasurer Report:

- Statements and bank reconciliations were all emailed out prior to the meeting to the Board
- Treasurer Claire Vegliante announced that she intends to retire by the end of the year. She has built money into her budget to help train a new employee.

Trustees Report:

- Trustee Craig discussed the need to find creative ways to raise money for the transfer tax fund. This is a legislative act that needs to be set up to institute a transfer tax to help fund beach renourishment. The fund is financed by the special assessment amount of \$300 on our tax bills every year.
- Trustee Trimarchi questioned the mayor's residency and claims he does not have a domicile in the Village. The mayor stated he has an active lease at 790A Dune Road and that is a viable document for proof of residency.
- Trustee Trimarchi

Constables Report:

- Civil service exam is July 13, 2024
- Hired two new highly qualified part-time employees. Both are going to get ATV certified in May

- Army Corp will be out Monday & Tuesday surveying the beach from Pikes to Cupsogue.

Attorney Report:

- May 14, 2024 is the next Suffolk County Village Officials Association (SCVOA) training conference. Both the Trustees and the ZBA are required to do four hours of training every year. This training is in Riverhead at the hotel Club Indigio.

Resolutions:

- Motion to make Saturday July 27, 2024 as the Village Movie night.

Motion by Michael Craig
Second by Harvey Gessin
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

- Motion to adopt a resolution approving the claim vouchers by the Board of Trustees

Motion by Michael Craig
Second by Harvey Gessin
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

- Motion to adopt a resolution waiving of the reading of the minutes of the March 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting

Motion by Gary Trimarchi
Second by Harvey Gessin
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

- Motion to authorize Mayor Vegliante to attend the Annual NYCOM Executive Committee meeting May 15-17th.

Motion by Michael Craig
Second by Harvey Gessin
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

- Resolution for the Board of Trustees to appoint Election Inspectors Ruby Heller and Kallie Gordon at a rate of \$16 per hour.

Motion by Gary Trimarchi
Second by Harvey Gessin
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

Public Comment:

- Resident Yale Nelson said there is going to be a screening of the documentary film “Incredible Journey: The Story of West Hampton Dunes” at the Southampton Cultural Center on July 20, 2024 at 8pm. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased in advance online at Southampton Cultural Center.
- Resident Sara Covelli brought up that there are grants that the village should look into that are offered to municipalities and coastal communities. Sara suggested looking into the Environmental Bond Act for a potential source of funding water projects.
- Jim Cashin who is a member of the zoning committee, talked about the zoning board wanting to put together an outside plans review department, to help facilitate applications that come into review.
- Residents Perry Jacobs and Mary Jane O’Connor asked about the process for voting in the Village election. Asked if there could be a fact sheet for voting put up on the website.

Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn public meeting and go into executive session at 3:03pm

Motion by Michael Craig
Second by Harvey Gessin
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

- Motion to reopen public session

Motion by Michael Craig
Second by Harvey Gessin
All in favor: Yes
None opposed

- Motion to close a public meeting 3:21pm

Motion by Harvey Gessin
Second by John Eff
All in favor: Yes
None opposed