

Inc. Village of Lawrence, October 14, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, October 14, 2010, at Lawrence Village Hall, 196 Central Avenue, Lawrence, New York 11559.

Mayor Oliner called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM

Those members present were: Mayor Martin Oliner  
Deputy Mayor Joel Mael  
Trustee Edward I. Klar  
Trustee Michael A. Fragin  
Trustee Simon Felder

Also present were: David E. Smollett, Administrator, Elizabeth Kaye, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

Dr. Hamlet, 36 Causeway, requested that parking on Causeway between Broadway and Rock Hall Road be restricted to one side of the street. Causeway, a busy three-lane street, is hazardous when cars are parked on both sides. Mayor Oliner asked Administrator Smollett to review the situation and come up with suggestions. Deputy Mayor Mael requested that enforcement of the two-hour parking regulation be enforced. Mayor Oliner indicated that Dr. Hamlet's request would be taken under advisement.

Ms. Jackie Handel, Lawrence Association, expressed how pleased she was with her 50<sup>th</sup> High School reunion event held at the Country Club.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Item 1a) Approve Bid for Phase III, Golf Course

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Trustee Klar asked that this item be removed from the agenda due to lack of Club funds at the present time.

1b) Authorize removal of old equipment shed by 8<sup>th</sup> green.

Trustee Klar expressed the need to remove the maintenance shed located between holes five and eight due to its poor condition. Superintendent Ryder would be reviewing bids received by the Building Department.

Mayor Oliner indicated that he and Administrator Smollett had looked at different alternatives for a replacement shed; prefab, block alternative and estimated the cost between \$80- \$90,000. Deputy Mayor Mael questioned what exactly would go out to bid? Mayor Oliner stated that rather than solicit bids, a Request for Proposal (RFP) should be solicited to help decide among the alternatives. Discussion took place on the best method of building a replacement shed and what part of the work the Highway Department could perform.

Trustee Klar moved to solicit bids for a new equipment building between holes one and ten, which was seconded by Mayor Oliner and unanimously approved.

Item 2) Golf Refund Request for Michelle Forst

Trustee Klar explained that a refund was being requested by Mrs. Forst for her late husband's golf membership noting that Mr. Forst had played four times before his passing. The Mayor and Board expressed their condolences. Trustee Klar suggested that the matter be referred to the Park Commission to make a recommendation to the Board. Trustee Fragin commented that a full refund was not warranted as some usage did occur.

Trustee Klar moved to table this item until opinion from the Parks Commission is received, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mael; all in favor.

Administrator Smollett asked for a motion to declare 85 chairs at the Club, which had been replaced by new chairs, and sell them in accordance with the NYS Comptroller's office policies on selling surplus equipment.

Trustee Klar moved to declare surplus 85 chairs at the Country Club, and sell them pursuant to NYS Comptroller office policies, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mael and unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Item A) Repay Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTs) to Club

Trustee Klar requested that three payments made by the Country Club to the General Fund be reversed and refunded to the Club as it was not appropriate for the Village to charge PILOTS to another Village entity. The PILOTS totaled \$414,592.00. Deputy Mayor Mael commented that the initial PILOT was justified as it also was intended to cover Administrative costs. Deputy Mayor Mael supported return of the last two PILOT payments.

Trustee Klar moved to return all PILOT payments to the Club, totaling \$414,592, which was seconded by Mayor Oliner. The motion passed upon the following vote:

Mayor Oliner -	Aye
Deputy Mayor Mael -	Nay
Trustee Felder -	Aye
Trustee Fragin -	Aye
Trustee Klar -	Aye

Item B) Item removed from the Agenda

Item C) Parking issues at Sutton Park

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Trustee Fragin referred to a discussion in previous minutes regarding the Police's concern with the Sutton Park neighborhood when two cars are parked on opposite sides of the street making it difficult to get through. The Board asked Administrator Smollett to look at Beechwood, Forest and Lakeside Drive West to see whether parking signage is appropriate and report back to Board.

Item D) Monthly /annual parking for business district lot #3

Deputy Mayor Mael indicated that the study is being worked on and Administrator Smollett would be taking a few more data points. Deputy Mayor Mael suggested having an inspector do a hard count to determine if there are enough parking spaces; recommend hours of permit; cost of permit; best location; one end or both ends or not at all?

Trustee Klar moved to approve the minutes of August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, and the work session of September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mael. Minutes of September 20<sup>th</sup> were unanimously approved. Minutes of August 14<sup>th</sup> and September 2<sup>nd</sup> were approved by all with the exception of Trustee Felder who abstained.

Trustee Felder thanked Administrator Smollett for taking care of placing the new bench at the corner of Village Hall, along with a new tree and new trash can.

Trustee Klar reported that a number of senior citizens had made requests for additional benches on Central Ave and Broadway. These requests were received over the last couple of weeks. Mayor Oliner commented that benches had been put on Rock Hall Road for first time.

Mayor Oliner reported that some residents were interested in developing Zion Park and had appointed a small committee to look into ways of developing the park similar to Cedarhurst Park. Residents named to the committee thus far include Rebbitzen Horowitz, Myrna Breitman, Jeanette Schechter and a fourth to confirm back to the Mayor.

Mayor Oliner reported that he continues to be in discussion with LIPA on its refusal to pay permit fees for placement of massive poles along Broadway. LIPA takes the position that it is a New York State agency and legislation allows it to install poles without being subject to permit fees. Forty-five summonses had been issued to LIPA this week. Administrator Smollett had met with LIPA for a briefing prior to the start of the project.

Mayor Oliner commented that drainage issues on Ivy Lane were corrected.

Mayor Oliner reported on a new pilot program he recently put in place. In order to address the safety issue regarding lack of visible house numbers, the Highway Department stenciled numbers on the curbs in front of the homes on Lawrence Avenue to Rock Hall Road. Mayor Oliner asked the Board to take a look and comment. Superintendent Ryder looked at the areas of Lawrence where houses are set back and numbers not visible from the street. Mayor Oliner requested that the Ordinance regarding display of house numbers be enforced primarily for safety reasons.

Mayor Oliner reported that drainage issues on Herrick Drive had been addressed. Mayor Oliner asked for authorization to cancel the agreement with Drexel Construction and to re-bid Herrick Drive to include concrete gutters. Mayor Oliner moved to cancel the agreement made with Drexler Construction and re-bid Herrick Drive, which was seconded by Trustee Klar and unanimously approved.

Deputy Mayor Mael commented on the aftermath of teenagers congregating at the "Triangle" over the holidays. Deputy Mayor Mael was present for two nights and noted that the Auxiliary Police did an exemplary job. The Board expressed its appreciation to the Police. Deputy Mayor Mael commented that Officer Keles should receive a complimentary letter for her fantastic job. Deputy Mayor Mael also commented that the Board needs to find a solution to this problem for future years.

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Deputy Mayor Mael stated that he would like an email sent to residents informing them that they may dispose refuse of an inflammable nature at North Woodmere Park this weekend. Mayor Oliner suggested that the Village organize its own disposal day.

Deputy Mayor Mael asked if additional names were generated for the Village's email list. Mayor Oliner indicated that a letter in this regard was about to be mailed out.

## **FINANCE**

Trustee Fragin expressed his concern with excessive overtime at the Club noting that some employees at the Club are working 80 hours a week; 40 hours of overtime. It was suggested that a meeting be held with Club Manager McMahon to discuss.

Trustee Fragin commented that \$54,000 for upgrading the computer system was not specifically approved by the Board. Administrator Smollett explained that the purchase was made through a NYS OGS approved vendor. In addition, the upgrading of the computer system was a recommendation made by the NYS Comptroller's Office. The existing computer system could not be supported any longer by Microsoft. Administrator Smollett indicated that a discussion had been held with the Board but official approval was not received for the specific purchase. A number of Board members expressed concern and displeasure that the computer and phone systems were ordered without authorization by the Board. The Board determined that it should be notified of any purchase outside the ordinary course of business. Mayor Oliner explained that new purchase requisition forms were being utilized and that he is involved with all of current purchases.

Trustee Fragin moved to approve the following Abstracts, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mael and unanimously approved:

General Fund - #s 609-610

Trust Fund - # 277

Recreation Fund - #s 30-31

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Sewer Fund - #s 31-32  
Payroll - #s 2272-2274

At 9:30 pm, Mayor Oliner moved to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss matters related to the hiring or firing of employees, which was seconded by Trustee Klar and unanimously approved.

The board returned to public session at 10:30. Trustee Klar moved to close the meeting which was seconded by Trustee Fragin and unanimously approved.

This is to certify that I, David E. Smollett read the foregoing minutes and the same are in all respects a full and correct record of such proceedings.

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David E. Smollett, Administrator,  
Clerk/ Treasurer