

MEETING HELD APRIL 27, 2016

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York, was held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 in the Court Room of the Police Headquarters Building, 350 North Main Street, Port Chester, New York, with Mayor Dennis Pilla presiding.

Present in addition to Mayor Pilla were Trustees Bart Didden, Francis Ferrara, Daniel Brakewood, Gene Ceccarelli, and Gregory Adams

Also present were: Village Attorney Tony Cerreto; Village Treasurer, Leonie Douglas; Village Clerk, David Thomas; Assistant to the Village Attorney, David Kenny; Fire Chief, Ed Quinn

On motion of TRUSTEE ADAMS, seconded by TRUSTEE DIDDEN, the meeting was declared opened at 6:12 p.m.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Didden, Ferrara, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustee Marino

On motion of TRUSTEE CECCARELLI, seconded by TRUSTEE DIDDEN, the Board went into Executive Session for:

1. *Consultation with Village Attorney regarding certain correspondence between the Village Manager and Mayor on October 5, 2015* (Mr. O'Neill, Emily Harper, Village Clerk, the Board excluding Mayor Pilla)
2. *Consultation with Village Attorney and Labor Counsel regarding collective bargaining negotiations and other employment matters of particular persons in the Code Enforcement Department* (Mr. O'Neill, Emily Harper, Entire Board and Village Clerk)

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Didden, Ferrara, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustee Marino

At 7:43 p.m. the Board came out of Executive Session.

On motion of TRUSTEE CECCARELLI, seconded by TRUSTEE DIDDEN, the Public Hearing was declared open.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Didden, Ferrara, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustee Marino

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW § 3-c

Village Manager Steers commented on the Village Budget. We met with each department and there were needs in Staffing and additional needs of If we went with the existing tax cap on the \$1.6MM budget it would put the average homeowner at an additional tax bill of \$80.

Village Treasurer Leonie Douglas commented that everything from the Budget Workshop is in this Proposed Budget. The human resources person will become a full-time position. DPW will hire two sanitation workers. This will decrease seasonal workers. She reviewed the proposed increases within departments. The net change in the budget would be 1.60857MM. This would include 17 additional people. This would be an average \$80 tax increase per homeowner.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Richard Abel commented on overriding the tax cap. He suggested that the Board vote to have the option to override the tax cap. When people buy a house people don't look just at taxes; they also look at the mortgage.

On motion of TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, seconded by TRUSTEE FERRARA, the Public Hearing was adjourned with the Board taking no action tonight and setting a meeting to go through the budget adjustments tomorrow at 6:00 in the Village Hall Conference Room.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Didden, Ferrara, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustee Marino

Mayor Pilla commented on the rate of inflation. He asked the Village Treasurer to run the numbers for hiring 16 people next year. If we don't agree on the budget the Village Manager's default budget will take place on June 1st.

Trustee Brakewood commented that having additional headcount always produces a better outcome.

Village Manager Steers commented that more bodies can cover more work. Right now we don't have the capacity to get to all projects.

Mayor Pilla commented that in contemplating increasing Building and Code Enforcement resources, we should revisited our fee structures to be judicious on people who don't use those services.

On motion of TRUSTEE FERRARA, seconded by TRUSTEE ADAMS, the Public Hearing was adjourned until Monday, May 2nd.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Didden, Ferrara, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustee Marino

RESOLUTION

AGREEMENTS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS PROGRAMS

On motion of TRUSTEE FERRARA, seconded by TRUSTEE ADAMS, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

WHEREAS, the Village of Port Chester Nutrition Program for the Elderly requires agreements and contracts; and

WHEREAS, such services have been appropriated in the 2015 to 2016 Village Budget;

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Village Manager to enter into the following agreement and contract with regard to the Village of Port Chester Senior Citizens Programs;

Resolution to authorize the Village Manager to enter into contract with Westchester County Dept. Senior Programs & Services for 2016 Title IIIB Transportation Services Agreement.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Village Attorney, Anthony Cerreto

AYES: Trustees Didden, Ferrara, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustee Marino

DATE: April 27, 2016

BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee Ferrara commented on when we receive the number for the tax cap. Village Treasurer commented that it is a State system. There is a one year delay and then another year delay for the assessor.

Trustee Brakewood commented on the report on the aging of the cases in the Court System. David Kenny replied we have received the report from Code and are reviewing and revising it. The house at 201 Grace Church Street is having the asbestos removed. As soon as Con Edison removes the meter we will demolish the house. Betsy Brown is going to be knocked to the ground.

Trustee Ceccarelli thanked the Village Manager for all he does.

Trustee Adams agreed.

Village Manager Steers commented he is very conservative. We would like to do more programming with the community through Recreation and the Senior Center.

Mayor Pilla commented the Village Manager and Staff do a fantastic job.

On motion of TRUSTEE FERRARA, seconded by TRUSTEE ADAMS, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Didden, Ferrara, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustee Marino

Respectfully submitted,

David Thomas
Village Clerk