## **MEETING HELD JUNE 1, 2015**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York, was held on Monday, June 1, 2015, 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 Saverio Terenzi, Joseph Kenner, Daniel Brakewood, Gene Ceccarelli and Gregory Adams.

It should be noted that Trustee Marino was absent.

It should be noted that Trustee Brakewood arrived at 6:47p.m.

Also present were: Village Clerk, Janusz R. Richards; Village Manager, Christopher Steers; Village Attorney, Anthony Cerreto; Village Treasurer, Leonie Douglas (arrived at 7:05 p.m.); Chief of Police, Richard Conway(arrived at 7:05 p.m.); Ed Brancati, Human Resources; Michael De Vittorio, 1st Assistant Fire Chief and Enrico Castarella, 2nd Assistant Fire Chief.

On motion of TRUSTEE ADAMS, seconded by TRUSTEE TERENZI the meeting was declared opened at 6:33 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

## **MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:34 p.m., on motion of TRUSTEE CECCARELLI, seconded by TRUSTEE ADAMS, the Board adjourned into an executive session regarding a particular person in Port Chester Fire Department.

## **ROLL CALL**

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

Also present were: Village Manager, Christopher Steers; Village Attorney, Anthony Cerreto; Ed Brancati, Human Resources; Michael De Vittorio, 1st Assistant Fire Chief and Enrico Castarella, 2nd Assistant Fire Chief.

On motion of TRUSTEE TERENZI, seconded by TRUSTEE CECCARELLI, the Board of Trustees directed the Village Manager to issue a Letter of Admonition to Chief Engineer of Port Chester Fire Department, Edward Quinn regarding a fellow fireman complaint against Chief Engineer, Edward Quinn.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

At 7:05 p.m., a motion to come out of executive session was made by TRUSTEE ADAMS, seconded by TRUSTEE CECCARELLI, the Board of Trustees closed the executive session.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

## **PRESENTATION**

NDC regarding the findings of their investigation of the proposed Irving/Poningo project.

The Board commissioned a working committee to work with the police and the Village Manager to talk about the physical and functional requirements for the police station and court specifically.

Dan Marks of the National Development Corporation gave an update on the Municipal Center project. Just to recap, the NDC has been working on an outline for a proposal for the municipal center which included the police, court, the municipal offices and some commercial space. We have done a geotech study on this property and we have completed the Phase I environmental study and are prepared to do the Phase II survey and the architectural study if you would like to move forward. The geotech report said the site is suitable, which means there were no subsurface conditions which would make the project more expensive. We completed the environmental study and there are no known environmental hazards recorded in any of the data. This means that the original cost estimates were within the range. We are not going to go forward on any other work until we are authorized by the Village.

Mr. Marks commented he is available to answer any questions as they appear.

Trustee Ceccarelli commented he is more interested in Mr. Marks' impression of the present courthouse. Is it feasible and what would be the expense? Mr. Marks commented that there are some logistic issues that relate to the existing building that are not impossible to overcome. There are options to explore.

Trustee Terenzi asked Mr. Marks to come back with a number that it would cost to make the improvements to the North Main Street property.

Trustee Brakewood spoke of some of the assumptions regarding the municipal center and the square footage requirements and the parking requirements. He showed the building at 350 North Main Street and the parking at that location. Today we are at 25,000 sq. ft. versus about 34,000 sq. ft. in the new plan. If we were to go ahead with the renovations at 350 North Main there is plenty of available space in the area that we could use on a temporary basis.

Mayor Pilla commented what we are looking at is a cost proposal from NDC to evaluate building the police and court facility, basically renovating the building. The subcommittee is asking them for a cost proposal to consider this location and swing spaces that might be available at the DPW and Grace Church Street, and also using abutting properties to 350 North Main.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Pilla asked if there was anyone from the audience who would like to make any public comments.

Comments were made by:

Ms. Goldie Solomon commented on the antique firehouses. We will need a public hearing because there is no guarantee that you aren't going to raise our taxes. The citizens and taxpayers have to say what they want.

Mr. Reavis commented on the NAACP meeting where Chief Conway made a presentation about the adjustments in the department. Crime is still evident, especially narcotics. King Street has become a raceway. The same thing is occurring on Willett Avenue. People need to be aware of the mileage limits. Another concern is the large amount of housing development. Will the taxes from this housing cover the cost of repairing roads and the schools?

Ms. Heather Paul commented on the dog park. It came to her attention that the public notices in the *Westmore News* that \$35,000 has been allocated by the Board for embellishment of the dog park. When the dog park group first came to us the first most serious condition was that it should not cost the taxpayers in Port Chester one red cent. The assured us that they were self-sufficient. Why is it costing us \$35,000 for the dog park?

Mr. Gregg Hamilton read the following statement: "My name is Gregg Hamilton. I have been a resident of the Village for 7 1/2 years. I am not a member of the PCDP Group, but my wife is, so I am married to the Dog Group, if you follow my thinking.

"I have only three points to make, and will try to do so quickly:

- "1) There is no place to let a dog run and play off leash legally within this Village. Walking a dog is a very healthy retirement activity and I submit that having a dog park behind the new Starwood property would have strong appeal to empty nester homeowners, that is, the childless residents like myself and my wife who I believe the Village seeks to attract.
- "2) I have taken my dog to several parks in Westchester and find that dog owners in this county are quite respectful and considerate of others. I propose as a model Ward Acres in New Rochelle and Rye Playground Beach. I have not witnessed or heard of any incidents involving dogs and children that would suggest that a 100 foot buffer zone is necessary between a playground and a dog park. I think that dog owners should be required to keep their dog on leash until they enter the dog park gate and believe that this will assure that no harm will come to Village residents, whether adults or children in and around the playground. I recommend this rule for inclusion in the dog park guidelines that the Village Manager is charged with developing per the Resolution on which you will be voting tonight.
- "3) At the previous Board of Trustees meeting, Trustee Terenzi said that he had not experienced any groundswell of sentiment for or against this proposed dog park. Rest assured that the Dog Park Group has had to fend off many questions and concerns from contributors and supporters regarding the progress, or lack thereof, regarding the delayed arrival and much-debated design of this facility. I submit that the Dog Park Group has, to a large degree, served and suffered as a buffer between the Board of Trustees and local dog owners. Further, I want to remind the Board of Trustees that there is much to be gained from community activism, and much to be lost if community activism yields only debate, frustration and unexplained delays.

"Thank you for your consideration of this Resolution. I certainly hope that it passes tonight, for which I recklessly thank you in advance, and I hope that this body can then turn its attention to more substantive and critical Village issues."

Ms. Salena commented she looked at dog parks in various areas. There seems to be more dogs in Abendroth Park than there are children. If there are soccer games, many children are present, but usually only 5 or six kids are there.

Ms. Bailey-Reavis commented on the municipal center presentation. You need to inquire of the citizens what they want in a municipal center. The Village Hall on Grace Church Street is only accessible if you drive or live in the area and can walk. A municipal center on North Main Street is basically the same thing. We need a municipal center in the center of the Village where people will have access to the services the government supposedly offers. People in this community do a lot of walking to do the things they need to do. Try to be a little more aware of what the citizens require and need in this community. Liberty Square is a perfect spot. You also need to call a moratorium on

further building because we are crammed in, especially with the Castle, Pearl Street and Starwood..

Mr. Ceruzzi commented he came to hear Mr. Walker's presentation. Why is the street sweeper out before the sun is up? Mr. Morbito said he was going to take care of it. The dog park people have a lot of zeal. The municipal project is going to take quite a while. Maybe the Steilman building would become available. There should be a referendum on the municipal proposal.

Ms. Mcnerney commented that the way people have come out regarding the dog park seems trivial compared to other things. She has observed what a different breed dog owners are. Walking dogs is a social experience. Having a dog park would be a positive thing. Having it near a playground would be a positive thing.

Mr. Richard Abel commented on safety and liability at a dog park. The Village of Port Chester is not going to have to pay an additional premium because of the dog park. This should pass this soon and get on the road to fruition. Are you going to add to the agenda to vote on the amendment to the Board of Ethics? Mayor Pilla replied we have no action to be taken tonight. Regarding the Village Attorney to commence action to collect unpaid sewer rent, how do you put a lien on property that doesn't pay taxes?

Mr. Sean Mcnerney commented on the dog park. You have interaction with people you otherwise wouldn't have gotten to know. I can only urge you to pass the resolution. Regarding the municipal center, the existing police station and court is not yet in a state where it is falling to the ground.

Rafael Gregory commented that he urges the Board to vote in favor of the dog park. Dogs, like children, bring people together.

Ms. Beatrice Conetta commented on the disrespect we get from the surrounding communities. Many years ago Port Chester was call "sin city". We are being used as a textbook case of city corruption. We were sued unjustly by the DOJ. We were very good to the Town of Rye, giving them space in our Village Rooms and parking that was previously used by the Senior Center. Port Chester is very good to its neighboring communities. Rye Brook uses our fire department, library, post office, they belong to everything in Port Chester and they participate with us. The Board has to start working for the residents of Port Chester.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

## **RESOLUTION #1**

ACCEPTING A DONATION FOR, AND AUTHORIZING A DOG PARK IN THE UPPER PORTION OF ABENDROTH PARK

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

WHEREAS, the Village of Port Chester maintains and programs a system of public parks for passive and active recreational enjoyment by village residents and the public at large; and,

WHEREAS, the Village Parks Commission is chartered to advise and assist the Board of Trustees regarding the village park system; and,

WHEREAS, an enthusiastic group of Port Chester residents has come forward in 2012 requesting that a dog park be created in one of the Village parks, and this group of residents has become organized as the "Port Chester Dog Park Group"; and,

WHEREAS, after considerable public discussion, and deliberation with the Port Chester Dog Park Group, Village Parks Commission and Village staff, the Village Board of Trustees by resolution dated May 6, 2013 granted conceptual approval for the creation of a dog park in the upper portion of Abendroth Park; and,

WHEREAS, after said conceptual approval, the Port Chester Dog Park Group went forth to fundraise \$50,000 towards creating a dog park in the upper portion of Abendroth Park; and,

WHEREAS, as part of their \$50,000 fundraising effort, the Port Chester Dog Park Group won \$25,000 in a national "PetSafe" contest based on Port Chester community participation, of which the Board of Trustees agreed to the rules and to participate in, as part of their aforementioned conceptual approval granted May 5, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, by resolution dated January 20, 2015, the Board of Trustees established that a dog park be located in the upper portion of Abendroth Park, subject to final design specifications, and with that, declared the project to be an unlisted action and declared a negative declaration the under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), thereby requiring no further environmental review; and,

WHEREAS, the Port Chester Parks Commission has worked with the Port Chester Dog Park Group and Village staff, and after considerable deliberations, they twice affirmed that a dog park be constructed in the upper portion of Abendroth Park with exterior perimeter setbacks that are 60 feet from the existing park playground and abutting residential properties, as presented in the accompanying architectural plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has appropriated \$30,000 in the 2015/2016 Village Budget to create a dog park; and

WHEREAS, the Port Chester Dog Park Group now desires to gift \$50,000 to the Village of Port Chester for the purpose of constructing a dog park in the upper portion of Abendroth Park, as already conceptually agreed by the Board of Trustees; and,

WHEREAS, after considerable additional deliberations with all of the aforementioned groups and other external agencies, and after weighing all of the issues

involving dog parks in general, and specific park usage at Abendroth Park, the Village Board of Trustees hereby desires to move forward and create a dog park, to the specification of their prior January resolution but for using a specific trial entrance way in the upper portion of Abendroth Park.; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees desires for the Port Chester Dog Park to be operational within the next 60 days. Now THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby finalizes and accepts the attached dog park plan for Abendroth Park; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the \$25,000 gift from the Port Chester Dog Park Group, and an additional \$25,000 gift from the Port Chester Dog Park Group and PetSafe, subject to the terms of the PetSafe contest rules, for constructing a dog park in the upper portion of Abendroth Park; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees directs the Village Manager to work with the Port Chester Dog Park Group to detail, finalize and construct the interior dog park components that shall include a double-gated entrance area (in the approximate area depicted on the attached plan), as well as a large dog area, small dog area, and "dogs in training" area; and be it further

RESOLVED, that upon the Port Chester Dog Park Group and Petsafe's approval of the finalized dog park design, the Board of Trustees hereby directs the Village Manager to go out to bid and construct a fenced dog park along the upper portion of Abendroth Park to the specifications of the attached plan, with exterior perimeter setbacks that are 60 feet from the existing playground and residential properties; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees directs the Village Manager and Village Attorney to create whatever amendments and additional laws and policies at Abendroth Park that they deem necessary to codify a dog park there, ensure the public safety, and to present such policies to the Parks Commission. Such rules shall include: that dogs are to be under their owner's control at all times, that owners are solely responsible and assume all liability for their dogs; that properly licensed and leashed dogs shall be allowed to enter the park using only the upper portion of Abendroth Park by the specific existing (non-parking lot) entranceway designated in the attached plan for egress into the dog park; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees directs the Village Manager to procure and erect appropriate signage to set forth such appropriate policies and rules, and to direct the egress of leashed dogs into the Abendroth Park dog park using the existing (non-parking lot) entrance to the upper portion of Abendroth Park, and to satisfy the signage requirement of the aforementioned PetSafe dog park contest requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees directs the Village Manager to relocate the existing picnic table that is along the non-parking lot entrance pathway to the upper portion of Abendroth Park, and for him to also take appropriate measures to create

an appropriate separation between this upper park entrance pathway from the existing playground; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Manager direct the Village Police Department and Village staff to enforce new and existing and dog park rules and park regulations that are or will be set in place at Abendroth Park; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees directs the Village Manager to create a dog park incident management, monitoring and reporting protocol to ensure the public safety and to adequately assess the effectiveness of the physical, procedural, and regulatory components hereby designated for the creation of a dog park at Abendroth Park, and that the Village Manager report back to the Board of Trustees no later than sixmonths after the opening of the Abendroth Park dog park with any incidents, usage metrics, findings and improvement recommendations.

Approved as to Form:

Anthony M. Cerreto, Village Attorney

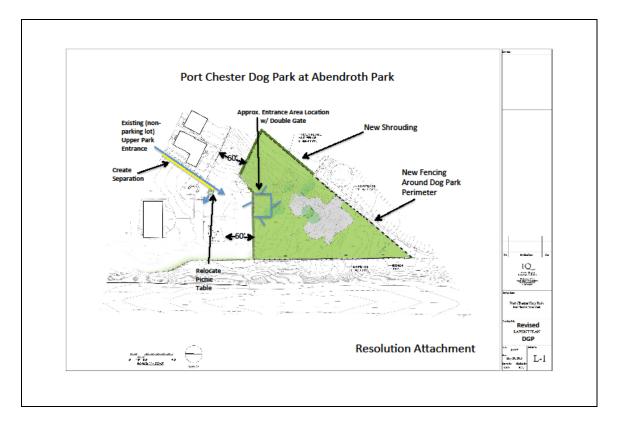
## **ROLL CALL**

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015



## **RESOLUTION #2**

# AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ATTORNEY TO COMMENCE ACTIONS TO COLLECT DELINQUENT SEWER RENT

On motion of TRUSTEE ADAMS, seconded by TRUSTEE CECCARELLI, the

following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester,

New York:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 14-F of the New York General Municipal Law, the Village of Port Chester has adopted a system of user fees with regard to the sanitary sewers, or sewer rents; and

WHEREAS, prior to such action, the expense of maintenance, repair, construction and reconstruction of the Village's sanitary sewers was solely assumed by property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, under Section 452, sub.4 of the General Municipal Law, the amount of delinquent sewer rents may be levied against the subject real property to be collected and enforced in the same manner as village taxes or through an action commenced in the courts; and

WHEREAS, delinquent sewer rent for those properties that cannot be collected and enforced through levy, such as tax exempt properties, must be collected and enforced through court action; and

WHEREAS, the Village Attorney requires the authority from the Board of Trustees to commence such actions. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Village Attorney is hereby authorized to commence actions to collect delinquent sewer rent, including penalties and interest, for those accounts that are outstanding for six months or greater.

Approved as to Form:

Anthony M. Cerreto, Village Attorney

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

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On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE ADAMS, to combine resolution 3 to 10 of the agenda for the purpose of casting one vote for all of the combine resolutions was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

### **RESOLUTION #3**

# REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, the following motion was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

RESOLVED, that ASPASIA TOFANO, residing at 171 Grace Church St., Port Chester, New York, be and she hereby is reappointed a member of the Port Chester COMMISSION ON RECREATION, effective immediately, and to expire July 9, 2017.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

### **RESOLUTION #4**

## REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, the following motion was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

RESOLVED, ANGELO RUBINO, residing at 6 Maplewood Lane, Port Chester, New York, be and he hereby is reappointed a member of the Port Chester COMMISSION ON RECREATION, effective immediately, and to expire July 9, 2016.

### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

#### **RESOLUTION #5**

## REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, the following motion was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

RESOLVED, that FRANK ERRIGO, residing at 85 Birch Street, Port Chester, New York, be and he hereby is reappointed a member of the Port Chester COMMISSION ON RECREATION, effective immediately, and to expire July 9, 2015.

### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

## **RESOLUTION #6**

# REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, the following motion was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

RESOLVED, that JANICE KUNICKI, residing at 99 Birch Street, Port Chester, New York, be and she hereby is reappointed a member of the Port Chester COMMISSION ON RECREATION, effective immediately, and to expire July 9, 2015.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

## **RESOLUTION #7**

## REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, the following motion was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

RESOLVED, that ENDA MCGOVERN, residing at 44 Elizabeth St., Port Chester, New York, be and she hereby is reappointed a member of the Port Chester COMMISSION ON RECREATION, effective immediately, and to expire July 9, 2016.

## **ROLL CALL**

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

#### **RESOLUTION #8**

# REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, the following motion was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

RESOLVED, that MICHAEL DECARLO, residing at 225 No. Regent Street, Port Chester, New York, be and he hereby is reappointed a member of the Port Chester COMMISSION ON RECREATION, effective immediately, and to expire July 9, 2016.

### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

### **RESOLUTION #9**

REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE

### RECREATION COMMISSION

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, the following motion was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

RESOLVED, that LYNN ERRIGO SHIELDS, residing at 85 Birch Street, Port Chester, New York, be and she hereby is reappointed a member of the Port Chester COMMISSION ON RECREATION, effective immediately, and to expire July 9, 2016.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

## **RESOLUTION #10**

## REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, the following motion was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

RESOLVED, that KIM MORABITO, residing at 14 W. Glen Avenue, Port Chester, New York, be and she hereby is reappointed a member of the Port Chester COMMISSION ON RECREATION, effective immediately, and to expire July 9, 2015.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

## **DISCUSSIONS**

Regarding the proposed Board of Ethics Committee amendment to our Board of Ethics Attorney Cerreto commented on Trustee Adams' question several months ago about gifts. The Chairman of the Ethics Committee could not make tonight's meeting so the Board can do it tonight with the Village Attorney or hold off to meet with the Ethics Committee. Right now the code puts employees at risk because we have a zero policy. Trustee

Terenzi commented that most dinners are working dinners and employees are giving extra time to discuss Village business. He would like to clarify the concept. If an employee is out with the trustees discussing business and the trustee wants to pick up the tab it is not stretching the Ethics Code at all. Attorney Cerreto commented right now this puts our Code in jeopardy because we do not have a dollar amount. You cannot take a gift. Trustee Ceccarelli commented there are not a lot of teeth in these Ethics laws. He does not see any sanctions about what happens if you violate any of the provisions. Attorney Cerreto commented for elected officials it is a court of public opinion. A number of municipalities have updated their ethics codes to be in line with the State Model Code of Ethics. If someone is a municipal employee there could be potential disciplinary action. What we have now is not satisfactory. We have an outright prohibition with no guidance. We could have a public hearing at the next Board meeting. Attorney Cerreto will make the changes to the Code. Mayor Pilla commented he would like to see work done on the Ethics Code one section at a time. He especially would like to see Nepotism addressed.

## **CORRESPONDENCES**

From Putnam Engine & Hose Co., No. 2 on the election of Andres Mejia to membership

On motion of TRUSTEE KENNER, seconded by TRUSTEE CECCARELLI, The Board of Trustees accepted the election of Andres Mejia as a member to Putnam Engine & Hose Co., No. 2 with the Port Chester Fire Department.

### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

From Corpus Christi Church requesting permission to place a banner to advertise their Carnival which takes place August 10th through August 15th.

The Board referred the correspondence to staff without objection.

From Maria del Carmen Amado, Westchester Hispano General Manager-Editor requesting the rental of Lyon Park.

The Board referred the correspondence to staff without objection.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS AND BOARD COMMENTS

Mayor Pilla asked if there was anyone from the audience who would like to make any public comments.

No comments were made by the public.

#### **Board**

Trustee Brakewood congratulated the dog park group in moving forward to opening up the dog park. He commented on the bulkhead project moving forward.

Trustee Ceccarelli commented on the DOJ. Janusz did a great job on the elections and he should be included in these discussions. Additionally, he recognized Carol Nielsen on her birthday.

Trustee Adams congratulated the dog park group for the work they did. A resident informed him that there was little handicapped parking available along Main Street. Village Manager Steers commented that it is limited and that it is not ADA compliant. We need to do some curb cutting. Trustee Adams commented that he hopes the Park Commission will soon have grills in the parks.

Mayor Pilla commented he is pleased about how things worked out with the dog park and the municipal center, i.e. reviewing what the best price would be at whatever location so we can make the best choice long term for the Village. Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> is the Taste of Port Chester to benefit Tamarack Towers. Port Chester Clean-Up Day is June 6<sup>th</sup>.

At 9:30 p.m., on motion of TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, seconded by TRUSTEE ADAMS, the meeting was closed.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Trustees Terenzi, Kenner, Brakewood, Ceccarelli, Adams and Mayor Pilla.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Marino.

**DATE:** June 1, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Janusz R. Richards Village Clerk