

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PIERMONT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
April 21, 2020

Present: Mayor Bruce Tucker, Deputy Mayor Blomquist, Trustee Rob Burns, Trustee Kelly Ruby, Trustee Nate Mitchell, Village Attorney Walter Sevastian, Esq. and Jennifer DeYorgi Maher, Village Clerk-Treasurer.

NOTE: On March 7, 2020, in Executive Order No. 202.1, Governor Cuomo suspended certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law to permit a Village Board to meet and take actions authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access and authorizing such meeting to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. The Village will be activating a remote meeting platform for the Tuesday, April 21, 2020 Village Board meeting, which will enable residents to watch a livestream of the meeting on the “Village of Piermont” Facebook Page - in compliance with the Executive Order.

Please be advised that comments and/or questions on the proposed budget which will be read and addressed at the public hearing may be submitted via email to the Village Clerk no later than 1:00 pm on April 21, 2020, at the email address clerk@piermont-ny.gov. The Village Board will also be monitoring the Facebook livestream feed, which will enable the public to submit questions during the meeting.

Mayor Bruce Tucker called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Bruce Tucker asked for a moment of silence for COVID-19 victims.

Item #1 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

No minutes to approve.

Item #2 – Approval of Warrant

Deputy Mayor Blomquist made a motion to approve Warrant #042120 in the amount of \$104,806.97. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #3 – Department Reports

Department of Public Works - Highway Superintendent Tom Temple informed the Board they closed off Flywheel Park, including grass area around the gazebo, as requested at the last Village Board meeting with fencing and posted “No Trespassing” signs. This morning they coned off with “No Parking” from Kinney Street to Paradise, Rockland Road to Paradise. River Lot, Lot D, Spruce Street Lot have been barricaded with “Permit Only” signs posted. Bulk pick up is scheduled for April 28th. And will proceed as scheduled in the future.

Police Department – Chief Hurley thanked everyone who showed up for the Birthday parade, it was great to see the community supporting each other and thanked Chief Goswick for being instrumental in putting the parade together. They are enforcing the new parking restrictions and he is in contact with the Bicycle Club for further mask compliance. Officers are out there everyday trying to keep the residents safe. Mayor Tucker stated asked Chief to coordinate with restaurants requesting temporary parking.

Building Department - Building Inspector Charles Schaub informed the Board they are limiting inspections and only doing those that they deem necessary. Permit applications and CO searches are still coming in.

Parks Department – Dan Sherman was not present.

Fire Department – Chief Goswick, Jr. advised the Marine Unit is back in service. They had a call yesterday with a man overboard without a life vest, they got him out of the water, and he is healthy. He thanked everyone who participated in the Birthday Parade for the Bullock family, including the over 22 Fire Departments, 5 Police Agencies as well as residents and individuals, which was incredible. They are seeing a decrease in COVID calls in the Village, but they have seen more deaths in the Village since the last meeting. Every ambulance in the Village has been outfitted with backpacks with appropriate supplies to conduct a decon. They are taking appropriate precautions on fire calls and within the firehouse to help prevent exposure and every truck is being sprayed down after every call. Six members of the firehouse have currently tested positive.

Item #4 - Old Business

Village Clerk-Treasurer had no old business to discuss.

Village Attorney had no old business to discuss.

Mayor Tucker had no old business to discuss.

Deputy Mayor Blomquist had no old business to discuss.

Trustee Ruby had no old business to discuss.

Trustee Burns had no old business to discuss.

Trustee Mitchell had no old business to discuss.

Item# 5 New Business

Village Clerk-Treasurer informed she filed the tax cap paperwork. She's also waiting for the GASBY report to come in, which will finalize the audit so that can go out. They are looking to go out to bid mid-June for the firetruck BAN.

Mayor Tucker had no new business to discuss.

Village Attorney had no new business to discuss.

Trustee Burns had no new business to discuss.

Trustee Ruby had no new business to discuss.

Deputy Mayor Blomquist had no new business to discuss.

Trustee Mitchell had no new business to discuss.

Item #6 7:30pm Continue Public Hearing for 2021 Budget

Public Comment: None

Trustee Burns made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:55pm. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Blomquist so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Burns made a motion to accept the 2021 Budget as prepared. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Blomquist so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

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Mayor Tucker reiterated that there would be zero tax rate increase for homeowners (homestead). He thanked the Board and Department heads for their hard work to put this budget together.

Village Clerk-Treasurer informed the Board she will get it over to the State to do the Constitutional tax limit and do the tax bills.

Item #7 Review and approve the 2020 Stormwater II Education Program Agreement with Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Village Clerk-Treasurer stated we do this every year with the Stormwater Consortium. Highway Superintendent Tom Temple stated this is part of our Stormwater management program. Cornell works with us on the MS4. They do public education and outreach, 2 of the 6 minimum measures and public involvement and participation aspect, which all goes into the MS4 report.

Trustee Burns made a motion to approve the 2020 Stormwater II Education Program Agreement with Cornell university Cooperative Extension. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Blomquist and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #8 Public Comment

Village Clerk-Treasurer stated that Dennis Whitton from Pier701 called saying he received a donation to supply meals to people. He is asking the Village for suggestions.

Julie Dieterow, (via email) expressed concerns of bicyclists not wearing masks as well as parking concerns.

Christine Cazolla, 66 Orchard Terrace, (via email) suggested fundraisers for local Piermont businesses.

Elizabeth Kohn, (via email) – thanked Board for restrictions implemented, and suggested signage by Sparkill Steakhouse/Ferdon entrance as well as 9W and Ash St. about closures. Further suggested barricade on Paradise or making it a one-way.

Mayor Tucker stated we have four message boards. Tom Temple stated we have them throughout the Village trying to keep them off the path and parks. He will move one board to the top of Ash Street alerting to parking restrictions. Building Inspector suggested Village employee placards for their vehicles parked in front of Village Hall. Chief Hurley suggested Village employees' part where their police vehicles are parked during this time. Mayor Tucker stated Paradise cannot be made a one-way.

Joanne Ottaviano (via email) – expressed concerns over the elderly residents. Requested the Fire Department to check in on them to ensure they are safe. Mayor Tucker stated that is the purpose of the Neighbor to Neighbor program, Trustee Mitchell agreed and stated there have been several individuals who have been checking in on their neighbors since this started. Village Clerk-Treasurer will let her know about the Neighbor to Neighbor program.

Item #10 Adjournment

Trustee Burns made a motion at 7:20 pm to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ruby and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer DeYorgi Maher
Clerk-Treasurer