

Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
of the Board of Trustees of the  
Village of Larchmont, New York,  
held on **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Joshua L. Mandell  
Deputy Mayor Jaine Elkind Eney  
Marlene Kolbert  
John Komar

**ABSENT:** Trustee Lorraine Walsh

Also Present: Clerk Finn, Treasurer Brucciani  
Joanna C. Feldman, Esq., representing Village Attorney's  
Office

Mayor Mandell called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM, and welcomed those present.

Police Chief John Poleway reported on the following:

**Police Chief's Report**

1. The Department has been receiving an increasing number of reports concerning traffic and parking violations at Chatsworth Avenue School, particularly in the morning. Violations include blocked roads and sidewalks. He urged drivers to obey the local traffic statutes that are in place. Additional patrols have been assigned to that location to ensure compliance, and summonses will be issued accordingly.

Mayor Mandell noted that most parents do the right thing when driving around the schools, but an occasional parent does not. This causes the unsafe conditions explained by Chief Poleway above. Trustee Kolbert echoed the Mayor's sentiments on this subject, and expressed her appreciation to the Police Department for monitoring this situation.

2. As the Thanksgiving weekend is approaching, he encouraged everyone to celebrate responsibly and refrain from drinking and driving.

3. New York State participates in the "If You See Something, Say Something" initiative. There is a 24-hour hotline to call if you see something suspicious or out of the ordinary. It is 866-SAFENYS (866-723-3697).

4. He wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Mandell made the following announcements:

**Mayor's Announcements**

1. Mayor Mandell extended the Board's condolences to Police Officer Ron Knudsen and his family on the loss of his mother.

2. Mayor Mandell also extended the Board's condolences to Building Department secretary Sandy Girona and the Girona/DelVecchio families on the tragic loss of her son-in-law, Robert DelVecchio. Mayor Mandell noted that Mr. DelVecchio worked for the Town of Mamaroneck Highway Department and died while on duty. This accident should remind everyone of the high risk municipal employees take while working out on the roads, and their efforts should be respected and appreciated by all.

3. Mayor Mandell additionally extended the Board's condolences to former Library Board of Trustees' Chair Joan Faulkner on the passing of her husband.

4. The Village launched a new website on November 14, 2011. He extended the Board's appreciation to Rosita Fichtel and Paula Eisenberg of the Technology Committee for their efforts on this new site, as well as to Village Clerk Eileen Finn.

5. He has submitted a grant application to the Federal government, on behalf of the Village, for funding to develop a local multi-hazard mitigation plan.

6. The sale of 2012 Parking Permits continues. Postcards have been mailed out to all 2011 permit holders to remind them to purchase their new permits.

On motion of Trustee Komar, seconded by Trustee Eney, and unanimously carried, it was:

**RESOLUTION**

Chase, L.

Voeltz, M.

Volunteer Members

Larchmont Fire Dept.

**RESOLVED**, to approve the appointment of Lisa Chase and Mark Voeltz as volunteer members of the Larchmont Fire Department.

Trustee Kolbert reported on the following:

**T**rustee Reports

1. The Parks and Trees Committee members are working hard on next year's activities. They have also received donations for benches to be placed in Vanderburgh (Turtle) Park and Kane Park.

2. She attended a meeting in Rye last week concerning the possible ban on use of plastic bags in that community.

3. Sylvia Nasar will be speaking at the Friends of the Library event on December 11 at 4:00 PM at the Village Center.

4. The Friends of the Library maintain a book rack at the Railroad Station. She encouraged people to place their unwanted books there for others to enjoy.

5. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Trustee Eney reported on the following:

1. The Chamber of Commerce has scheduled the following events for the holiday season:

- December 3-4: Food Drive for Larchmont-Mamaroneck Hunger Task Force.
- December 10-11 – Carolers and musicians will stroll through the Village business districts singing songs of the season.
- December 17-18 – A holiday trolley will take shoppers between the business districts for holiday shopping. The trolley will stop at the Corner Store on Palmer Avenue, and Tequila Sunrise Restaurant on Larchmont Avenue.

2. She congratulated the Mamaroneck High School Varsity Field Hockey team on their second place finish in the State Finals this past weekend. She thanked the players, as well as their parents, for their hard work and dedication to the sport.

Mayor Mandell next announced that the Village has reached an agreement with the Larchmont Police Benevolent Association union for their new labor contract.

Mayor Mandell outlined the terms of the contract, as follows:

1. It is a three-year contract extension, from June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2014.
2. Wages: The contract calls for salary increases of 1.5 percent annually for the next three years. For the last decade, the Police Department union employees' raises hovered around 4 percent annually. This reduction in wage growth will go a long way to meeting the difficult economic challenges now facing the Village.
3. Active-Duty Health Insurance Contributions: While employees hired before the date of this agreement will continue to contribute 25% towards the cost of their health insurance with a pre-existing cap of \$3500, new employees will no longer enjoy the benefits of this cap.
4. Retiree Health Insurance Contributions: Employees hired after the date of this agreement will be required to contribute 50% towards the cost of their health insurance post- retirement. (This is the maximum contribution allowed for individual coverage under New York State law.)
5. Employees will be allowed to utilize up to five of their allotted sick days per year to tend to an illness in the immediate family, as defined by the Family Medical Leave Act. Employees have agreed to the Village's home confinement policy in the event that such need arises, subject to independent verification by the Village.
5. The union has agreed to limit the rights of their employees to unilaterally file grievances against the Village. The Mayor noted that this will reduce the potential for frivolous, nuisance grievances which can be costly to the Village and the union.

Mayor Mandell thanked the members of the negotiating team and the members of the bargaining unit for their cooperation in reaching this agreement. They acted very professionally, and understood that concessions were necessary in this difficult economic climate.

Trustee Eney and Trustee Kolbert echoed the Mayor's comments in this regard, and extended their appreciation to the men and women of the Larchmont Police Department for their service to the community.

On motion of Trustee Komar, seconded by Trustee Kolbert, and unanimously carried, it was:

**RESOLVED**, to authorize Mayor Mandell to enter into the union contract with the Larchmont Police Benevolent Association, for the period June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012, as outlined above.

In light of several retirements in the Police Department this year, the Department has asked that two of the three vacancies be filled. Mayor Mandell noted that these new employees will make at least \$50,000 less in salary each year, and \$60,000-\$70,000 in total when benefits and other expenses are included. Additionally, these new employees will now be subject to paying for benefit and pension costs.

Following a brief discussion, on motion of Trustee Eney, seconded by Trustee Komar, and unanimously carried, it was:

**RESOLUTION**  
Approve labor contract with Larchmont **P.B.A.**  
6/1/11-5/31/14

**RESOLUTION**

Auth. Mayor and Police Chief to interview Police Officer candidates

**RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby authorizes Mayor Mandell and Police Chief Poleway to interview candidates for two Police Officer positions in the Larchmont Police Department.

Carol Casazza Herman of the Environmental Committee next appeared to present the Committee's Climate Action Plan to the Board.

Ms. Casazza Herman outlined the contents of the report, and stated:

- In 2008, the Village Board voted to join ICLEI. ICLEI is an international association of local governments, as well as national and regional local government organizations, that have made a commitment to sustainable development. At that time, a goal of 20 percent was set by the Board to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Village. The Climate Action Plan memorializes the steps that have been taken and what may be done before 2015.
- An effective Energy Management Plan is important for good government. Currently, the Village buildings use 39 percent; vehicles use 36 percent; and streetlights and signals use 33.3 percent
- The Village of Larchmont, to date, has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 14.8 percent.

Ms. Casazza Herman stated that the data contained in this report will be checked every two years through 2015 to see if additional measures taken during those periods will bring the Village closer to its 20 percent reduction goal.

She added that the Committee will continue to look for grants, especially for electric vehicle charging stations and energy efficient street lighting. The Committee will work together with the Board whenever opportunities arise.

She extended her appreciation to Trustee Kolbert, Mayor Mandell, and the Board of Trustees for their support of the Committee's endeavors. She also expressed similar appreciation to former Mayor Liz Feld and former Trustees Richard Ward and Anne McAndrews.

In closing, Ms. Casazza Herman thanked her fellow members of the Environmental Committee for their input and efforts as this Plan was created, especially Bruce Macfarlane, Jill Anderson, and Millie Magraw. The Village Hall staff, and in particular, the Treasurer's Office, was also recognized for their efforts to provide data that was used in developing the Plan.

Mayor Mandell extended the Board's appreciation to Trustee Kolbert, Ms. Casazza Herman, and the entire Environmental Committee for the work they have done to create this Climate Action Plan. He noted that while not reflected in this document, the guidance given to the Board by the Environmental Committee has led to the Village obtaining new LED lighting, replace the Fire Department's bay doors, and the purchase of a new electric vehicle and mower.

Trustee Kolbert commended Ms. Casazza Herman for her leadership during this project, and for her past leadership of the Committee. Her experience shows through in this report, and the Village is grateful for her knowledge and expertise. She added that in a one-square mile Village, it is the residents' responsibility to make the community as sustainable as

possible. She encouraged everyone out of their cars and to walk or ride bicycles instead.

Trustee Komar questioned how the factors outside of the community affect the Village's carbon footprint. Ms. Casazza Herman responded and said that the outside factors affect the community quite a bit. She encouraged the Village Board to work with surrounding communities and entities; i.e., Metro-North and the New York State Thruway Authority, on lowering the overall carbon footprint.

Following further discussion, on motion of Trustee Kolbert, seconded by Trustee Eney, and unanimously carried, it was:

**RESOLVED**, that the Village Board hereby recognizes the Climate Action Plan as prepared by the Village of Larchmont Environmental Committee, and will incorporate it into future plans for the coming years.

**RESOLUTION**  
**C**limate Action Plan  
written by Larchmont  
**E**nvironmental  
Committee

On motion of Trustee Eney, seconded by Trustee Komar, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting of September 26, 2011, were approved.

On motion of Trustee Eney, seconded by Trustee Komar, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting of October 24, 2011, were approved.

On motion of Trustee Komar, seconded by Trustee Eney, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting of November 1, 2011, were approved.

Treasurer Brucciani addressed the Board concerning the possibility of modernizing the water meter reading operation in the Village. This new venture would alleviate the need for Water Department employees to go into houses with inside water meter devices. The automated, drive-by system would allow for easier collection of data and potentially more frequent billing periods throughout the year.

In order to accomplish this project, the services of a professional engineering company will have to be engaged to prepare the specifications and bid documents. Three bids for these services have been received, with the lowest bidder being Hazen and Sawyer, in the amount of \$29,000.

Treasurer Brucciani stated the following reasons that this system would be beneficial for the Village:

1. It is extremely labor intensive to collect the data with our current meter reading system.
2. It would allow for more frequent billing, as well as allow the Village to monitor the system more frequently for leaks.
3. It will offer the Board, as well as the Treasurer, a better way of monitoring the Water Department's budget, thus creating a more efficient system for them to project the Department's future needs.

Trustee Komar questioned how long the project will take to complete. Treasurer Brucciani stated that the project, from bids to installation, will take approximately one year to complete. He added that approximately 50 to 65 percent of the meters in the Village will need to be replaced with this new equipment. Two types of systems are being considered – one where a Village van would drive by the properties to remotely read the meters, and

the second would be the creation of stations where the meters could be read.

Following a brief discussion, on motion of Trustee Komar, seconded by Trustee Eney, and unanimously carried, it was:

**RESOLUTION**

**H**azen and Sawyer  
Accept bid for  
professional engineering  
services to develop  
specifications and bid  
documents for new  
water metering system

**RESOLVED**, to accept the bid from Hazen and Sawyer, in the amount of \$29,000, for professional engineering services to develop specifications and bid documents for a new water metering system for the Village of Larchmont.

On motion of Trustee Eney, seconded by Trustee Komar, and unanimously carried, it was:

**RESOLUTION**

Auth. Mayor to enter  
into IMA with West.  
Co. for access to land  
record databases

**RESOLVED**, to authorize Mayor Mandell to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with Westchester County to allow designated Village officials, as necessary, to enter the County's electronic databases to view deeds and other land records that are pertinent to the Village of Larchmont, pending legal review by the Village Attorney.

On motion of Trustee Eney, seconded by Trustee Kolbert, and unanimously carried, it was:

**RESOLVED**, to approve Abstract Audited Voucher No. 6, dated November 21, 2011, in the amount of \$1,727,506.58, per copies filed with the Clerk, subject to confirmation and approval of Trustee Eney.

On motion of Trustee Eney, seconded by Trustee Komar, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.