

Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
of the Board of Trustees of the  
Village of Larchmont, New York,  
held on **MONDAY, DEC. 12, 2011**

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

**ABSENT:** None

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

Mayor Mandell called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM, and welcomed those present.

Mayor's  
Announcements

Mayor Mandell made the following announcements:

1. Santa will be arriving in Flint Park on December 17 at 10 AM. Light refreshments will be served in the park just before his arrival.
2. Mayor Mandell announced tentative meeting dates for the beginning of 2012, as follows:
  - January 9
  - February 13
  - March 20 (Also Election Day)
3. Mayor Mandell announced that the first Budget Preparation Work Session will be held on Monday, January 23 at 7:00 PM.
4. Mayor Mandell announced that Patricia Loubeau has been appointed as member of Parks and Trees Committee.
5. The MTA has announced that improvements are planned for the Larchmont Railroad Station beginning in Spring, 2012. They will be ongoing until Spring, 2014.
6. Mayor Mandell announced that a new business, BeFit, has opened at 2005 Palmer Avenue.
7. Mayor Mandell extended holiday wishes to the audience, and wished everyone the best for 2012.

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

**RESOLVED,** to approve the appointment of Robert Fletcher, Joseph Carney, and Jody Rosenstrach as members of the Board of Assessment Review.

Mayor Mandell congratulated Town Supervisor Valerie O'Keeffe on her upcoming retirement and thanked her for her many years of service to the Town of Mamaroneck.

Trustee Kolbert reported on the following:

**RESOLUTION**

Fletcher, R.  
Carney, J.  
Rosenstrach, J.  
Board of Assessment  
Review

Congratulations to  
O'Keeffe, V. on  
retirement as  
Mamaroneck Town  
Supervisor

## Trustee Reports

1. The Traffic Commission has extended the one-hour parking zones in the business district to two hours through January 3, 2012.
2. She informed the audience that the new circulation desk has been installed at the Library, and extended the Board's thanks to the Friends of the Library for this gift.
3. Trustee Kolbert announced that the Library will be closed on December 24-26, 2011.
4. The City of Rye recently passed a law banning the use of plastic bags in their community. She congratulated Sarah Goddard and the Environmental Committee on this achievement.
5. She extended her best wishes to all for a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

Trustee Eney reported on the following:

1. Trolley rides will be offered by the Larchmont Chamber of Commerce this coming weekend, with stops planned at Tequila Sunrise Restaurant and The Corner Store. She encouraged everyone to shop locally during the holiday season and throughout the year.
2. She extended her best wishes for a happy holiday season to all.

Police Chief John Poleway reported on the following:

## Police Chief's Report

1. The Police Department is currently investigating several burglaries that occurred at the end of November on Old Colony Drive and Spanish Cove Road. He offered the following suggestions so that residents can protect themselves. Those included:

- a) Lock windows and doors of houses and cars.
- b) Do not leave valuables inside of cars in plain sight.
- c) Turn alarms on overnight and when house is unoccupied.
- d) Register burglar alarms with the Police Department.

If residents are out shopping in Larchmont during the holiday season, Chief Poleway encouraged everyone to be vigilant and:

- a) Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- b) Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- c) Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- d) Pay for purchases with a credit card, if possible.
- e) Notify credit card companies if cards are lost or stolen.
- f) Be aware of strangers approaching you for some reason.
- g) Avoid carrying too many packages.
- h) Stay alert to your surroundings.

i) If you see something, say something. Immediately report any unusual or suspicious activity to the Larchmont Police Department (834-1000) or to 1-866-SAFENYS (1-866-723-3697).

Mayor Mandell stated that the Chief's warnings might be alarming, but they are necessary to protect our residents and businesses.

2. Chief Poleway wished everyone a happy holiday season.

On motion of Trustee Eney, seconded by Trustee Walsh, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting of November 21, 2011, were approved.

On motion of Trustee Komar, seconded by Trustee Eney, and carried, the minutes of the work session of December 5, 2011, were approved.

Trustee Kolbert did not participate in the vote on these minutes.

Mayor Mandell next reported that a new labor agreement has been reached between the Village of Larchmont and the Larchmont Professional Firefighters Association.

Prior to reporting on the details of the new agreement, Mayor Mandell observed that by April, 2010, a property tax cap was already being discussed by New York State. The Village Board took notice of such discussions and decided to do what it could early on to avoid causing problems for the Village's budget going forward.

In order to contain the rate of growth in the property taxes, the Board moved quickly to identify potential sources of savings. To this end, he noted that over 75 percent of the budget consists of payroll and payroll-added expenses, and that changes to this area of the budget had to be made.

The Board began to focus on the union contracts, with a particular eye towards the Police and Fire contracts as they can go to binding arbitration. Past arbitration decisions in the Village provided raises of 3.75 percent. The Board needed to convince employees to make significant concessions willingly. The concessions that were sought by the Board were designed to provide savings relative to the status quo as follows:

1. Short term savings – Employees in the Police and Fire Departments have enjoyed raises of 4% over the last few years. Indeed, wage increases have been averaging at or near this 4% for the past decade. The Board sought a significant reduction in the contractual wage growth of these employees going forward.

2. Intermediate term savings – The Board sought an increase in the health care contributions made by employees during their active period of employment.

3. Long term savings – The Board desired that we began to require the maximum contribution allowable under New York State law from newly hired employees towards their post-retirement health care benefits.

The terms of the Fire Department's contract are substantially the same as the Police Department's contract, as indicated below:

1. Salary increases – 1.5 percent per year for five years.

2. Active duty insurance contributions – Pre-existing employees will continue to be required to contribute 25 percent towards their health care

premiums during their period of employment, subject to a cap of \$3,500 per year. All newly-hired employees will be required to contribute 25 percent towards their health care premiums, without the benefit of an annual cap on contributions.

3. Retiree health care – For current employees, it is 25 percent. For new employees, it will be 50 percent.

Mayor Mandell stated that the Board has come a long way in one and one-half years. Credit must be given to the employees for their understanding. The decisions were made by the unions of their own free will. He noted that many government employees elsewhere in the County still make no contributions whatsoever towards their health care costs.

Mayor Mandell added that he was able to meet personally with the negotiating committees of each union, and layoffs were never threatened. During the contract negotiation period, a number of hiring decisions were delayed, as the Board awaited potential settlement of these negotiations. By the time all union negotiations were completed, seven vacancies were created. Any vacant positions the Board seeks to fill will now be filled at a much lower cost than before.

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

**RESOLVED**, to approve the ratification of the union contract between the Village of Larchmont and the Larchmont Professional Firefighters Association, for the period June 1, 2010, through May 31, 2015, as outlined above.

Trustee Kolbert commended everyone who participated in the negotiation processes as they were finalized in a way that neither staff nor services had to be reduced or cut.

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

**RESOLVED**, that Trustee Komar is hereby assigned the responsibility of serving as Fire Commissioner for the Village of Larchmont

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

**RESOLVED**, that Abstract Audited Voucher No. 7, dated December 12, 2011, in the amount of \$212,626.00, be paid, subject to confirmation and approval by Trustee Eney.

On motion of Trustee Kolbert, seconded by Trustee Eney, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

**RESOLUTION**

Approve union contract with Larchmont Professional Firefighters Association – 6/1/10-5/31/15

**RESOLUTION**

Komar, J. Fire Commissioner