

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Board of Trustees of the Village of
Larchmont, New York, held on **TUESDAY,**
MARCH 20, 2012

PRESENT: Mayor Joshua L. Mandell
Trustees John Komar
Marlene Kolbert
Lorraine Walsh (arrived at 9:40 PM)
Peter Fanelli

Also Present: Dep. Clerk Riley, Attorney Staudt, Treasurer Brucciani

Mayor Mandell called the meeting to order at 8:12 PM and welcomed all in attendance. He reminded everyone that today is Election Day and encouraged all to vote.

The Mayor recognized Town of Mamaroneck Supervisor Nancy Seligson, Village of Mamaroneck Mayor Norman Rosenblum and Town of Mamaroneck Councilwoman Jaine Elkind Eney who were in the audience this evening.

Mayor Mandell discussed the Tentative Budget for 2012-13. By New York State law, the tentative budget must be filed in the Clerk's Office on this date.

There were significant increases in the State retirement pension this year, with budgeted payments up by 24%. Tax certiorari refunds were also up 33% in this budget, and over the past two years, these refunds have increased by 60%.

2012-13 Tentative
Budget

Additionally, during the last year, sales tax revenues decreased by 11%, representing a ten-year low. Costs of the Joint Garbage Disposal District were down by 2.1% due to contract negotiations and a higher degree of recycling.

Electrical costs for the Village decreased due to rate cuts by the New York Power Authority and lighting improvements in the Fire Department. Health insurance costs went down this year by 2.4% because of retirements and contractual new employee contributions. Payrolls in the Police and Fire Departments will go down slightly due to employees accepting the retirement incentive offered by the Village last year. These former employees have been replaced with lower salaried employees.

The Mayor summed up the main details of the 2012-13 tentative budget as follows:

Expenses: Down \$77,000
Non-Tax Revenues: Down \$180,000
Tax Levy: Up \$103,000

Mayor Mandell explained that the New York State Tax Cap is a cap on the tax levy not the tax rate. The tax rate is defined by the tax levy (the amount of tax needed to be collected) divided by assessed values throughout the community. Since elected officials have no control over assessed values, they have no control over this component of the tax rate. The cap on the tax levy for the Village this year is 3.46%, while this tentative budget results in an increase in the tax levy of only 0.87%. For purposes of comparison, last year's tax levy increase of 1.4% translated into a 1.7% in the tax rate because the assessed values dropped. Because

the assessment rolls are not closed until April 1, the current estimate of a 0.5% reduction in assessed values may be revised, leading to an increase in the tax rate in excess of 1.36%.

The Mayor stated that there was no fund balance applied to the tentative budget and it is the first time in many years that this has not been done. The current fund balance is the highest in the history of the Village of Larchmont.

Fire Chief's Report

Fire Department Captain John Caparelli gave the following report:

1. Total Alarms to Date: 185 Includes: EMS, C/O, MVA, General Service.
Structure Fires: 28 Stuyvesant Ave. - Chimney Fire, 34 Vanderburgh Ave. – Kitchen Fire.
2. Mutual Aid Requests: Engine 33 to Pelham FD (Wolf's Lane Commercial Fire), TL-7 to TMFD (Hommocks School)
3. Fire Inspections: Inspections began in March, 25 completed to date. In 2012 all commercial locations will be inspected as per the NYS Fire Code's 3 year cycle requirement.
4. New Employees: Three new firefighters starting, March 28, 2012. Medical, background, and personal reference checks have been completed. The Fire Academy begins April 2, 2012.
5. Personal rescue ropes have been delivered, and training will be scheduled shortly.
6. Medical Evaluations and Air Mask fit testing have been completed for all career and volunteer firefighters.
7. Volunteers: There are currently 30 members, with three new applications pending Board approval.
8. All apparatus in service and all equipment functioning and available.
9. Months ahead: Hose testing will begin in April, 1st Dual Drill with the Town of Mamaroneck Fire Department.

Captain Caparelli read the following prepared statement:

“I would like to congratulate Trustees Fanelli and Kolbert on their reelection to the VOL Board. I would also like to congratulate Mayor McAndrews on her election as our new Mayor. I know Mayor McAndrews for quite some time and I look forward to working with her and the rest of the Board on all issues concerning the fire department. I can assure you that my officers, firefighters and I as well as the volunteer members are committed to continuing to provide the high level of service our residents enjoy.

I would like to thank Mayor Mandell for all that he has done for the fire department over the past 2 years. Mayor Mandell has been a volunteer firefighter for over 3 years and has responded to many calls for assistance first as a firefighter and second as a mayor. Mayor Mandell was instrumental in securing the purchase and accepting delivery of Engine 35.

I have been an employee of the Larchmont Fire Department for over 18 years and every administration has talked about repainting the apparatus area, but Mayor Mandell was the one who got the job done. He has also added some energy efficient lighting improving working conditions for the firefighters. Mayor Mandell approved the purchase of new upgraded Scott Air packs and personal rescue ropes, increasing the safety of our firefighters. In times when employees are being let go, Mayor Mandell has hired 4 new employees, one who was laid off from the City of White Plains and 3 who start on March 28, 2012.

On a personal note, since Mayor Mandell promoted me to Captain to oversee the daily operations of the fire department, he has always been available to me to answer questions, offer advice and to talk about any issue concerning the fire department. He has always tried to help me and the fire department improve service and improve accountability while being fiscally responsible even though sometimes things didn't always go well.

On behalf of all the members of the Larchmont Fire Department, both Career and Volunteer, I would like to say thank you and good luck."

Mayor Mandell responded and thanked Captain Caparelli for his kind words. He added the captain has overseen the department during a difficult time. While during the contract negotiations he was always a gentleman and did his best to always keep the Village safe. The Mayor commended Captain Caparelli for his work and said that the Village is lucky to have him in the Fire Department.

The Mayor stated in the past year and a half while contract negotiations were ongoing, the Village had a hiring freeze. During that period, there were seven different vacancies in the Fire and Police Departments combined. Captain Caparelli along with Police Chief John Poleway kept things running smoothly while keeping the morale high in their respective departments.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the request of the Chamber of Commerce to hold sidewalk sales on June 7- 9, 2012.

RESOLUTION
Chamber of
Commerce – Sidewalk
Sales – 7/7-7/9/12

Mayor Mandell said the Village has been invited by Westchester County to participate in a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Village has been preparing its own plan; and had the Village acted a month earlier, the work would have been done at the expense of Larchmont taxpayers. The County-wide Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan will be at no cost to the Village. FEMA now requires a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for any municipality who would like to participate in hazard mitigation funding.

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

RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby agrees to participate in the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan proposed by Westchester County.

RESOLUTION
Village to participate
in West. Co. Multi-
Hazard Mitigation
Plan

Treasurer Brucciani next addressed the Board:

Before proceeding, Mayor Mandell thanked Treasurer Brucciani for his guidance during his term as Mayor. Municipal budgeting can be difficult,

and Treasurer Brucciani was instrumental in helping him understand the process.

Treasurer Brucciani said that in October, 2011, the Village established the position of part-time Assessor. The Village, in order to be in compliance New York State Retirement Reporting, requires the establishment of a term of office and a standard workday for this position. The term of office may be decided at the next Board meeting, but the standard workday is time-sensitive. He recommended for the part-time Assessor's position a seven hour workday which is consistent with workday of Village Hall employees.

**Assessor – Standard
Workday Resolution
for New York State
Retirement System**

On the motion of Mayor Mandell, seconded by Trustee Kolbert, and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Larchmont hereby establishes the following as standard work days for the following appointed official and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by this official to the Clerk of this body:

Title	Name	Social Security Number (Last 4 digits)	Registration Number	Standard Work Day Hrs/Day	Term Begins/Ends	Participates in Employer's Time Keeping System (Y/N)	Days/ Month (Based on Record of Activities)
ELECTED OFFICIALS							
None							
APPOINTED OFFICIALS							
Village Assessor	Daniel T. Whittemore	5915	35886050	7	10/01/2011-04/02/2012	N	4.26

Treasurer Brucciani expressed his gratitude to Mayor Mandell for his help and support over the past two years.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2012, meeting.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2012, meeting.

Mayor Mandell asked Attorney Staudt to discuss the Tax Certioraris presented to the Board for approval.

Attorney Staudt said he reviewed the documents and recommended that the Board approve the tax certioraris on the agenda this evening. He requested his associate, Joanna C. Feldman, Esq., to address the Board and explain the details.

Ms. Feldman said that the proposed Verizon tax certiorari settlement runs from 2003-2011. This settlement was negotiated by the Village, the Town of Mamaroneck, and the Mamaroneck Public School District because of

the impact of the potential refunds. Ms. Feldman asked the Board to approve this settlement.

On the motion of Mayor Mandell, seconded by Trustee Kolbert, and unanimously carried, it was;

RESOLVED, to approve the tax certiorari settlement with Verizon New York, Inc., for the property at 5 Franklin Avenue (Designation 6-7, 130.2) and the Outside Plant (Designation 6-7, 130.1) in the amount of \$102,052.19.

RESOLUTION
Verizon New York
Tax Certiorari
Settlement for 5
Franklin Avenue

Next, Ms. Feldman spoke about the proposed SHI Realty Corp. tax certiorari settlement which goes from 2008-2011. These negotiations were done by the Village and the Town of Mamaroneck.

On the motion of Trustee Fanelli, seconded by Trustee Komar, and unanimously carried, it was;

RESOLVED, to approve the tax certiorari settlement with SHI Realty Corp. for the property at 2071-2079 Boston Post Road (Section 7, Block 705, Parcel 307) in the amount of \$27,231.64.

RESOLUTION
SHI Realty Corp.
Tax Certiorari
Settlement for 2071-
2079 **B**oston Post
Road

The next proposed tax certiorari settlement Ms. Feldman brought to the attention of the Board was for Jack DiBona (Jack's Automotive) and goes from 2010-2011. Again, the negotiations were conducted by the Village and the Town of Mamaroneck.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the tax certiorari settlement with Jack DiBona for the property at 2067 Palmer Avenue (Section 6, Block 601, Parcels 495 and 500) in the amount of \$4,450.51.

RESOLUTION
DiBona, J.
Tax Certiorari
Settlement for 2067
Palmer Avenue

Ms. Feldman spoke about the proposed tax certiorari settlements with JP Morgan Chase Bank. These settlements are both for 2011 and were not included in previously approved settlements that went back to when the property was owned by the Bank of New York.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the following tax certiorari settlements for J.P. Morgan Chase Bank:

- For the property at 113 Chatsworth Avenue (Section 6, Block 603, Parcel 1) in the amount of \$2,827.16.
- For the property at 124 Chatsworth Avenue (Section 6, Block 602, Parcel 820) in the amount of \$9,452.22.

RESOLUTION
J. P. Morgan **C**hase
Tax Certiorari
Settlements for 113
and 124 Chatsworth
Avenue

Mayor Mandell extended his gratitude to Ms. Feldman for all her efforts.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Kolbert made the following report:

1. She expressed the Board's condolences to the family of longtime Pryer Lane resident Dr. Tina Strobos. During World War 2, Dr. Strobos protected Jews by hiding them in her attic. Years later she wrote that had the people who were in hiding, Anne Frank and her family, been able to contact the Resistance Movement, they may have been saved. Dr. Strobos lived in the Village with her husband, Walter Chudson.

2. She thanked everyone who participated in the Green Screen Film Series. The films, the speakers, and the turnout were great; and the hope is that it may become an annual event. She also thanked Town of Mamaroneck Supervisor Nancy Seligson, ~~C~~Kathy Hiller from the Village of Mamaroneck, and the members of the Larchmont Environmental Committee for their support and coordination of this event.

3. On Sunday, March 25, the Friends of the Library will present *New York Times* writer, Bill Broad who will speak about his new book on the subject of Yoga. This event will begin at 4:00 PM.

4. On Sunday, April 1 at 4:00 PM, there will be a screening of the documentary “The Surgeon and the Saint” at the Library. The film is about Village resident Dr. Louis DelGuercio and his son’s journey to Santiago de Compostela. The film is directed by Dr. DelGuercio’s son, Gino.

Trustee Fanelli encouraged everyone to take an interest in their community, get involved, and volunteer. There are vacancies on various Village committees, as well as in the Larchmont Volunteer Fire Department.

On motion of Trustee Komar, seconded by Trustee Kolbert, and unanimously carried, the Board voted to adjourn at 8:40 PM to await the results of the election held this day.

Farewell to outgoing
Mayor Joshua Mandell

While the meeting was technically adjourned, Trustee Komar presented Mayor Mandell with a proclamation signed by the entire Board in honor of his service to the Village.

Trustee Komar said that many people wished to express their gratitude to Mayor Mandell this evening, and invited comments from anyone who wished to speak. Those who publicly commended Mayor Mandell were:

Trustee Marlene Kolbert – Trustee Kolbert noted that she has served under three Mayors during her time as Larchmont Trustee. She said that she has never worked with a Mayor who had such an extraordinary grasp of numbers and ability to run the Village within budget as Mayor Mandell was able to do. Though she is sad he chose not to run for another term, she is grateful for the three years Mayor Mandell gave to the Village. Trustee Kolbert then presented Mayor Mandell with a cup filled with #1 pencils, something Mayor Mandell uses often.

Mayor Mandell thanked Trustee Kolbert for her assistance during his term and for all the years she has served Larchmont.

Trustee Peter Fanelli – Trustee Fanelli congratulated Mayor Mandell on his work as Mayor and thanked him for his appointment to the Board.

Village Attorney James Staudt: Attorney Staudt said Mayor Mandell’s term in office will be beneficial to the residents of the Village for years to come. He then thanked him for all he’s done for him and his family, as well as for all citizens of Larchmont.

Others who appeared to speak about Mayor Mandell were:

- Town of Mamaroneck Supervisor Nancy Seligson
- Village of Mamaroneck Mayor Norm Rosenblum
- Former Library Board Chair Bill Dentzer.
- Westchester County Legislator Judy Myers
- Finance and Budget Committee Chair Paul Silverman

They all congratulated Mayor Mandell for his work as Mayor and wished him well in the future. The Mayor thanked them all for their kind words and for being in attendance.

Former Trustee and mayoral candidate Anne McAndrews spoke next. She thanked the Mayor for his work and presented him with a gift on behalf of the other Trustees.

Trustee Kolbert added that former Rye Mayor Steve Otis and many committee volunteers were in attendance to wish the outgoing Mayor well.

Past Mayor Miriam Curnin next addressed the audience. She thanked Mayor Mandell for all his support while she was Chair of the Library Board of Trustees, especially during the Children’s Room renovation.

On the motion of Trustee Fanelli, seconded by Trustee Walsh, and unanimously carried the Board reconvened at 9:40 PM to announce the results of the election held this day.

Mayor Mandell said during the break, State Assemblyman George Latimer arrived and was in the audience. The Mayor welcomed Assemblyman Latimer and thanked him for being in attendance.

Mayor Mandell announced the results of the election as follows:

Mayor	
Anne H. McAndrews	101 votes
Trustee	
Marlene Kolbert	100 votes
Peter Fanelli	102 votes

Election Results
3/20/12

Trustee Fanelli thanked the election workers for all their efforts. He added that there are some exciting projects coming up in the next two years and he is looking forward to working with the new Board.

Trustee Kolbert thanked everyone who came out to vote. She and Mayor-Elect McAndrews have worked together for many years starting when they both worked for the League of Women Voters, and she is looking forward to serving with her again.

Mayor-Elect McAndrews compared the Village to living in a large old house, stating it was in need of constant vigilance and capable of surprise. So there are no surprises, maintenance of the infrastructure will be a priority while she is Mayor. The Village will be able to do this because past Mayors, including Mayor Mandell, have put Larchmont on firm financial footing. She said there are challenges to be faced and looks forward to tackling these challenges as Mayor. She extended her gratitude to the voters for electing her to this position.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the application of George Sheehan as a volunteer member of the Larchmont Fire Department.

RESOLUTION
Sheehan, G.
Volunteer Member –
Fire Department

On the motion of Trustee Fanelli, seconded by Trustee Walsh, and unanimously carried, it was;

RESOLVED, to approve the application of Christopher Prendergast as a volunteer member of the Larchmont Fire Department.

RESOLUTION
Prendergast, C.
Volunteer Member –
Fire Department

On motion of Trustee Komar, seconded by Trustee Fanelli, and unanimously carried, it was;

RESOLVED, that Abstract Audited Voucher #11, dated March 20, 2012, in the amount of \$126,305.57, per copies filed with the Clerk, be paid, subject to confirmation and approval by Trustee Walsh.

On the motion of Trustee Komar, seconded by Trustee Fanelli, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.