

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING HELD BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF VILLAGE OF BRONXVILLE ON
NOVEMBER 13, 2000 AT VILLAGE HALL, 200 PONDFIELD ROAD, BRONXVILLE, N.Y.

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PRESENT:	Nancy D. Hand Thomas M. Leslie Frank V. Sica John O'Callahan Mary C. Marvin	Mayor Trustees
ALSO PRESENT:	Bohn C. Vergari William T. Regan Peter J. Woodcock Brian M. Downey Vincent Pici, P.E. Robert J. Fels William J. Murphy	Village Counsel Village Administrator Superintendent of Public Works Chief of Police Superintendent of Buildings Village Treasurer Parking Commissioner

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Mayor Hand called the public hearing to order at 8:15 p.m. She advised that the purpose of the public hearing was to hear and consider comments regarding a proposed local law amending Chapter, 268, Article II, to increase the exemption levels to be eligible for a Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption. (Copy of the proposed local law is annexed to the official minutes.)

Village Administrator Regan verified that due notice of the public hearing had been given by posting and publication.

Mayor Hand said the Village of Bronxville traditionally gives seniors a tax exemption based on their income. She explained that state law recently made an adjustment to the dollar amounts but in order for them to go into effect in Bronxville the Village has to adopt a local law. The increased income levels to qualify for the tax reduction, on a sliding scale from less than \$20,500 to a maximum of \$28,899, would apply to the tax bills starting in June 2001.

Mayor Hand then called for public comments. There were none.

The Mayor then asked the Trustees if they would like to comment.

Trustee O'Callahan asked how many people presently benefit from this exemption. Mr. Regan replied "30".

There being no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 8:10 p.m.

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William T. Regan, Village Clerk

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF VILLAGE OF BRONXVILLE HELD
ON NOVEMBER 13, 2000 AT VILLAGE HALL, 200 PONDFIELD ROAD, BRONXVILLE, N.Y.

PRESENT:	Nancy D. Hand	Mayor
	Thomas M. Leslie	
	Frank V. Sica	
	John O'Callahan	
	Mary C. Marvin	Trustees
 ALSO PRESENT:	Bohn C. Vergari	Village Counsel
	William T. Regan	Village Administrator
	Peter J. Woodcock	Superintendent of Public Works
	Brian M. Downey	Chief of Police
	Vincent Pici, P.E.	Superintendent of Buildings
	Robert J. Fels	Village Treasurer
	William J. Murphy	Parking Commissioner

Mayor Hand called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. On motion of Trustee Sica and second by Trustee Marvin the Board voted to enter executive session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

(Present were Mayor and Trustees, Village Counsel and Village Administrator.)
The Board reviewed tax certiorari issues for the remainder of this year and next year. The Board also discussed the performance of department heads.

No votes were taken in executive session. At 8:00 p.m., on motion of Trustee O'Callahan, seconded by Trustee Leslie, the Board voted to end executive session and begin the regular meeting.

The regular meeting was recessed at 8:05 p.m. to go to a public hearing, and reopened at 8:10 p.m.

RESOLUTION – Local Law No. 3 - 2000 – Senior Citizens Property Tax Exemption

On motion of Trustee O'Callahan, seconded by Trustee Sica, and unanimously carried, the Board enacted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Trustees approves an amendment to the Code of the Village of Bronxville, Chapter, 268, Article II, to provide for an increase in the exemption levels to be eligible for a senior citizen property tax exemption (schedule attached).

AUDITORS' REPORT

Mayor Hand acknowledged receipt of the audit report by the Board of Trustees.

Village Treasurer Fels stated that the Finance Committee had received copies of the audit report. They met with the auditors in October and discussed the report and they were very pleased with it. He then introduced Susan Friend, partner in the firm Bennett, Kielson, Storch, DeSantis & Co., auditors for the Village of Bronxville.

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Ms. Friend gave an overview of the audit report for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2000. Revenues were more than \$725,000 over the anticipated amount and expenses were \$353,000 less than had been budgeted. The Village ended the fiscal year with a fund balance of \$2,239,000. She stated that the Village is in excellent financial condition.

Trustee Sica said he attended the Finance Committee meeting in August with the auditors. He said the auditors were very complimentary about the Village financial controls and said the Village is in very sound financial shape. He extended thanks to the Village administration for providing a high level of service with a minimum of expense.

Mr. Fels noted that in February, Moody's Investors Service upgraded Bronxville's bond rating to AA1, its second-highest rating.

Mr. Regan pointed out that the auditors did not issue a "management letter" since there were no material weaknesses that were found. Trustee Sica explained that no "management letter" shows the strength of the Village policies and procedures.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Trustee Sica, seconded by Trustee Marvin, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting and the Public Hearing of October 9, 2000, as drafted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Department reports were presented by Chief of Police Downey, Superintendent of Buildings Pici, Superintendent of Public Works Woodcock, Village Treasurer Fels, Parking Commissioner Murphy and Village Administrator Regan.

RESOLUTION – Professional Design Services, Village Hall Air Conditioning

Mr. Pici said that he contacted several engineering firms concerning professional design services for Village Hall air conditioning. He received a proposal to provide professional mechanical engineering services at the Village Hall from Werner Tietjen. Based on his review of the proposal and his conversations with Mr. Tietjen, Mr. Pici recommended that the Trustees approve the proposal and authorize only the Evaluation Phase at this time. He said that once the report has been reviewed, the Village will have a much better idea of how to proceed. He noted that Mr. Tietjen recently served as the mechanical engineering consultant on the library addition project.

On motion of Trustee Leslie, seconded by Trustee O'Callahan, the Board adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Engineer to sign an agreement with Werner E. Tietjen, P.E., 68 Purchase Street, Rye, NY for engineering services to develop and evaluate plans for air conditioning in Village Hall for the sum of \$4,000.

RESOLUTION – Professional Design Services, Village Hall Roof

Mr. Pici advised that the Village Hall roof is in need of repairs and he contacted a roofing consultant to come in and do some testing and come up with some recommendations. He received a proposal from Harold Watsky to provide professional roof evaluation services at the Village Hall. Based on his review of the proposal and his conversations with Mr. Watsky, Mr. Pici recommended that the Trustees approve the proposal to retain his services to provide the evaluation services outlined. He said that Mr. Watsky recently served as the roofing consultant on the library addition project and he is familiar with the design sensibilities of the Village.

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On motion of Trustee Sica, seconded by Trustee O'Callahan, the Board adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Engineer to sign an agreement with Watsky Associates, Inc., 20 Madison Avenue, Valhalla, NY to provide professional roof evaluation services for Village Hall for the sum of \$3,600.

RESOLUTION - Authorization to seek bids for New Street Sweeper

Mr. Woodcock requested Board authorization to seek bids for a new street sweeper. The Village owns a mechanical sweeper which was purchased new in 1989 and is in need of major repairs. The expected useful life of a street sweeper is approximately eight years. It is used on a daily basis, six days per week, to sweep the downtown business area.

On motion of Trustee O'Callahan, seconded by Trustee Sica, the Board adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Trustees authorizes the Superintendent of Public Works to seek bids for a new street sweeper as part of the Village's 2001-2002 capital improvement program.

RESOLUTION - Free Parking Days in December

Mayor Hand noted that in prior years the Board has approved free parking on two Saturdays in December to encourage people to shop in the Village, and called for a resolution to do the same this year.

On motion of Trustee Sica, seconded by Trustee Marvin, the Board adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Trustees approves free parking in the Kraft Avenue and Garden Avenue parking lots and on Paxton Avenue for Saturday, December 16, and Saturday, December 23, 2000.

RESOLUTION - Village Election

On motion of Trustee O'Callahan, seconded by Trustee Sica, the Board unanimously passed the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED the Village Election Day will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2001 and offices to be filled are one Mayor and two Trustees, each for a two year term.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee O'Callahan announced the imminent launching of Bronxville's web page which has been in the design phase for nearly a year. Julie Cagliostro on the Village staff is heading up the team and Thatcher Drew, a resident of the Village, gave advice. Nancy Vittorini, also a resident, has been extremely helpful in drafting text. The web site will be multi-functional - there will be a welcome section, as well as photos, and a Village history section. There will be a section on departments, describing what each department does and services that are available. Connected to that will be forms that can be downloaded and printed. It will also contain links to other sites such as General Code, the library, school and Chamber of Commerce. All in all, he said a great deal of progress has been made.

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Trustee Leslie reported that some residents had commented to him on how well Halloween went in the Village. Noting that Brian Downey recently took over as Police Chief, he said "keep up the good work."

Trustee Sica reiterated that he attended the Finance Committee meeting with the auditors and said that the Village is in good financial shape. He said the administration should be congratulated, especially Bob Fels.

Mayor Hand added that the Village has never been in better financial condition and she thanked Trustee Sica for his guidance.

Trustee Marvin reported that the Library project is going extremely well, and she extended thanks to the Library Board for overseeing the project.

Mayor Hand called for a motion to adjourn the meeting to go into a work session to begin to review the noise ordinance and talk about collection of yard waste. She stated that if any revisions to the code are proposed they would be introduced at a public meeting and a public hearing would also be held.

On motion of Trustee O'Callahan, seconded by Trustee Sica, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting and go into work session at 9:10 p.m.

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WORK SESSION

(Present were Mayor and Trustees, Village Counsel, Messrs. Regan, Pici, Downey, Woodcock and Murphy.) After the regular meeting the Board met in a work session to discuss possible revisions to the village code noise ordinance and the collection of spring and summer yard waste. Regarding noise, of particular concern is the alleviation of any confusion the public may have regarding what is permitted and prohibited on weekends and holidays. The Board reviewed a first draft prepared by Vincent Pici and will continue the discussion.

The board also discussed the problems associated with the current procedures for the collection of spring and summer yard waste. Peter Woodcock has recommended bagging of grass clippings and other debris except branches which would be collected in tied bundles. The advantage to bagging this waste is the public works crews could guarantee once a week collection during the period of May through September, as opposed to the three to four weeks it currently takes to collect it loose at the curb. The Board will continue its discussions on this subject.



William T. Regan, Village Clerk