

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting  
Village of Kensington, 2 Nassau Drive, Great Neck, NY  
September 20, 2023  
8:00pm – Village Hall

Present: Mayor Susan Lopatkin

Trustees: Jeff Greener, Phil Bornstein, Brent Greenspan, Carey Ye

The Board meeting was brought to order by Mayor Lopatkin at 8:00pm.

Mayor Lopatkin made a motion to approve the July board minutes, all in favor.

Mayor Lopatkin read a resolution stating that the Village of Kensington had the required examination of the Kensington Village Court fiscal year ending February 2023. It was conducted and completed in compliance with section 2019-a.

Mayor Lopatkin read an additional resolution stating that the Village of Kensington authorizes the Kensington Village Court to apply for a Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) grant in the 2023-24 grant cycle.

The board had a discussion regarding Scuba lessons at the village pool next summer. Deputy Mayor Greener was approached by one of our residents asking if the board would allow the scuba shop located on Middle Neck Rd to allow the shop to offer scuba lessons on off hours at our pool. The board discussed the pro/cons, risk, time of day, hours, cost, additional lifeguards, cleaning of the pool, etc. If the scuba shop brings the village a proposal, the board will take it into consideration.

Mayor Lopatkin went over the certified audited financial statements from fiscal year ending February 2023. Mayor Lopatkin stated that the auditors first look at

the way the village manages the funds for the year based on our budget in terms of revenue and what the village thinks they will need to spend. Net change of \$200K of a surplus of revenues over expense. The mayor stated that in the 16 years she has been in office, we have never run a deficit. The village general fund balance is now \$2,396,000.00; the village is in good shape. Every year when we create a budget, we appropriate money from our funds so that we don't raise the tax levy but so far, we haven't had to use those funds.

In summary, the fund balance for all governmental funds totaled \$2,800,000 as of year-end. The general fund balance increased by \$200,000; of this amount \$380,000 has been assigned for next years' budget; \$60K is restricted to Parkland, \$47K relates to prepaid expenditures, \$250,000 is assigned for police compensated absences and \$1,600,000 is unassigned. The current economic conditions mirrored those of the rest of the region. The Village faces increasing cost and shrinking revenues from non-property tax revenue. The administration has been diligent on containing expenses while continuing to provide efficient services to the residents.

Mayor Lopatkin made a motion to accept the audited financial statements by Skinnon and Faber, seconded by Trustee Bornstein, all in favor.

#### Mayor's update:

We received the money from DASNY for the police car grant and the kiddie pool grant.

The Village Hall now has a portico in the front, the windows outside were fixed, the fascia boards that were rotting have been fixed, the outside has been power washed and painted in some areas. We thank Nassau County Legislator Mazi Pilip for securing the grant of \$75,000 to upgrade our Village Hall.

The Village might be migrating from Swiftreach to Constant Contact to keep in touch with our residents via e-mail blast. The village has been under the Town of North Hempstead's contract for quite some time now and they are currently renegotiating their contract. The Town informed us that Swiftreach is looking to

increase the fees they charge the town by a significant amount and that's why negotiations have been continuing. Since the Town may ultimately opt to go with a different vendor, we were advised to evaluate different options we might want to pursue instead. By December, the Town will make a decision and we will be ready to make a change if we need to.

The board again discussed building a pickle ball court at our village pool. We have in the past received a quote to do this and it is quite expensive. The board also considered using the basketball court for a pickle ball court as well. The trustees will research more and we will revisit this at a later time.

On a motion of Mayor Lopatkin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Greener accept the Police and Treasurers reports.

The board entered into executive session 8:40pm

On the motion of Mayor Lopatkin, seconded by Trustee Bornstein, the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.