

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
Village of Kensington, 2 Nassau Drive, Great Neck, NY
December 17, 2024
8:00pm – Village Hall

Present: Mayor Susan Lopatkin

Trustees: Deputy Mayor Greener, Brent Greenspan, Andrew Bloom, Carey Ye

The Board meeting was brought to order by Mayor Lopatkin at 8:05pm.

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

Mayor Lopatkin read the following resolution into the minutes authorizing Verizon to set up a meeting regarding franchise revenue:

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Kensington (the “Village”) hereby authorizes a quorum of its Trustees to attend a public hearing with respect to the renewal of the cable franchise of Verizon New York, Inc. (“Verizon”); and

Resolved, that the Village shall work cooperatively with the Great Neck/North Shore Cable Commission (the “Commission”) and the other Villages comprising the Commission to schedule a convenient date, time and place to hold said public hearing; and

Resolved, that once the date, time and place for the public hearing is established, the Board of Trustees hereby ratifies and adopts the action of the Commission and/or the Village in publishing proper notice of said public hearing in the Village’s official newspaper; and

Resolved, that the agenda for the public hearing shall be the review and consideration of a franchise renewal agreement with Verizon by each of the Villages, as “local franchising authorities” under Title VI of the federal Communications Act and as franchising municipalities under Title 16, §§890-899 of the New York Public Service Commission regulations.

Mayor Lopatkin introduced the 2025-26 village budget. Mayor Lopatkin prefaced by stating that this budget stays within the tax cap. The tax cap limit is \$3,928,564 and our tax levy \$ 3,919,544; we are \$8,720 under the tax cap.

This budget includes \$100K for a pickleball court that will be built at our village pool. Due to parkland funds and overall village savings, the village is able to fund the court.

The cost of employee and police retirement has significantly gone up, we will budget the projection amount given by the state. Health insurance from NYSHP has also increased. Additionally, the village will be completed paying our bond for road repaving in three years.

On the revenue side, our revenue from licensing/permits is lower than in past years, so we need to budget more conservatively for permit revenue going forward

Mayor Lopatkin introduced an amendment to Local Law 151-13.2

Additional regulations for new construction and substantial improvements

The purpose of this change is to correct the local law on new construction based on lot sizes which had a quirk in the lot size calculations. The law will be amended to cover the following:

151-13.2 (3) For lots having a minimum lot width of 90 feet up to a maximum of 99 feet. Amend to a maximum of 99.9 feet

151-13.2 (4) For lots having a minimum lot width of 80 feet up to a maximum of 89 feet. Amend to a maximum of 89.9 feet

The board discussed a letter received from a resident requesting that senior citizen exemptions for taxes be implemented in the village. While the village recognizes vet exemptions, we do not allow senior citizen exemptions. After a board discussion of the matter, and recognizing that with so many seniors living in the village, the board agreed that the village didn't want to burden the other residents with the costs associated with tax exemptions for senior citizens.

Mayor Lopatkin opened the ongoing discussion regarding building a pickleball court at the village pool area. Deputy Mayor Greener made some calls and it has been determined that asphalt is best practice over concrete. Deputy Mayor Greener will be looking at a few more items concerning the court and a decision on contractor will be made next month.

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

On the motion of Mayor Lopatkin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Greener, the meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.