

January 13, 2020
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Trustee Andino
Trustee Lang
Trustee Howell
Trustee Lee
Mayor Luisi

APPOINTMENTS

- 1) Appointing Caleigh McCrink, student of Tuckahoe High School to the Tuckahoe Environmental and Sustainability Committee to a term ending May 31, 2020
Trustee Andino made a motion to approve appointment; motion was seconded by Trustee Lee and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.
- 2) Appointing Maria Capasso, student of Eastchester High School to the Tuckahoe Environmental and Sustainability Committee to a term ending May 31, 2020
Trustee Andino made a motion to approve appointment; motion was seconded by Trustee Lee and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.
- 3) Appointing Deborah DelGrosso as Deputy Village Treasurer as per the employment letter dated January 7, 2020
Trustee Lee made a motion to approve appointment; motion was seconded by Trustee Andino and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.
- 4) Appointing William Willams, Jr. as Building Inspector/ Facilities Manager as per the employment letter dated January 2, 2020
Trustee Lee made a motion to approve appointment; motion was seconded by Trustee Andino and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS

Auditor Report: Village financials for FYE 2019

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 1) Considering a proposed local law prohibiting the sale of electronic nicotine delivery products in the Village of Tuckahoe
Mayor Luisi made a motion to keep open public hearing; motion was seconded by Trustee Andino and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1) Approval of Minutes of the December 9, 2019 meeting

Trustee Lee made a motion to approve minutes; motion was seconded by Trustee Andino and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.

FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion to move the annual Tuckahoe Village election from the third Tuesday in March to the

Tuesday next succeeding the first Monday in November ensued.

Many residents voiced their pro and cons.

Mayor Luisi read the following statement:

"If it's not broke, don't fix it." That sums up my position on the idea of moving the Village elections from March to November. I say this for several reasons. Has past Village Boards not represented the residents of Tuckahoe? Members of every major and grass root party and varied backgrounds have sat on this board. Margaret Coleman, the first African American woman to sit on the Board was an Independent. Mayor Mike Martino was a Conservative, Mayor John Fitzpatrick was an Democrat, Mayor Steve Ecklund was a Republican, Trustees Steve Quigley, Claire Gorman, Ernie Zocchi represented the Democrats, Jannette Hayes, Sheila Clark, Maria McHugh also represented major political parties on the Board. The common thread that united all these elected officials was their keeping the best interest of Tuckahoe at the fore front of their term in office while bringing their own special talents to foster the common goals. The residents of Tuckahoe deserve a government that reflects their local concerns and remains focused on Village issues such as maintaining our police and DPW departments, infrastructure and traffic issues, future residential/commercial development, looking to make our housing more affordable to seniors and young families. To place our local candidates with our Village's unique and singular issues at the bottom of a November election ballot would do more harm than good to the individual residents of Tuckahoe. The same would hold true for the multitude of campaign literature, election signs, knocking on doors and social media material that would flood the Village, the mailboxes and personal mobile devices of residents. The venom of national and state politics would take center stage and has no place in our local issues.

This past 2019 November, 7 Village elections were uncontested in Westchester in the villages of Ardsley, Croton-on-the-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, Mount Kisco, Ossining Village and Tarrytown. Is this democracy when there are no other choices for the voters to decide upon? It's been put forth that the November election would bring out more voter turnout. It seems like a mild argument when you consider that New York State routinely ranks near the bottom of the country in voter turnout. It placed 42nd in 2018.

I have run for office 5 times beginning in 2011. Not once has one constituent suggested the Village elections be moved. Not once has it been a topic of discussion or part of any campaign literature regardless of the party affiliation. So why now? Is it an attempt to destroy the multi-party system much liked what happened in the 7 villages I just mentioned? Again, I ask what is the benefit to the residents of Tuckahoe? Do the voters of Tuckahoe want to relinquish what makes Tuckahoe such a special place to live in? Will the average voter stay invested in Tuckahoe issues as national, state and county issues are being debated? Where will the main focus wind up? I am not ready to take that chance.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION January 13, 2020

Village Hall Tuckahoe NY

Renee Howell, Village Trustee

WHEREAS, pursuant to Village Law § 9-912(1), the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tuckahoe may upon its own motion, adopt a resolution to hold a referendum on a proposition to change the month of the general Village Election; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Election Law § 4-108(b), the Board of Elections must be sent a certified copy of the text of the referendum and a statement of the form in which it is to be submitted at a general election at least sixty (60) days prior to the general election at which the referendum is submitted; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tuckahoe proposes that a referendum be held to change the month of the general Village Election, beginning in the year 2021, from the month of March to the month of November; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tuckahoe will comply with the requirements set forth in Election Law § 4-108(b).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tuckahoe, pursuant to Village Law and Election Law, hereby adopts this resolution authorizing the following mandatory referendum to be submitted at a general election.

RESOLVED, that, all General Village Elections of the Village of Tuckahoe shall be held annually on the Tuesday next succeeding the first Monday in November (to coincide with the date of the General Election, as defined in Election Law § 8-100 of the State of New York) and the term of office of each elected Village Officer who currently holds such elected office terminate at noon on the first Monday in December in the year in which such term would otherwise expire; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, to request the County of Westchester to include the following proposition on the referendum for consideration by the voters of the Village of Tuckahoe:

Shall the General Village Election of the Village of Tuckahoe be held annually in November rather than March, specifically on the date of the General Election as defined in § 8-100 of the Election Law of the State of New York, and the term of office of each elected Village Officer who currently holds such elected office terminate at noon on the first Monday in December in the year in which such term would otherwise expire?

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the polling locations and poll hours will be set by the Westchester County Board of Elections.

Trustee Howell made a motion to adopt resolution; motion was seconded by Trustee Andino and upon roll call was opposed by a vote 3-2 with Mayor Luisi and Trustees Lang and Lee opposed.

- 1) Authorizing the exemption of all building permit fees for the Tuckahoe Housing Authority in relation to the installation of solar panels on their buildings
Trustee Andino made a motion to approve resolution; motion was seconded by Trustee Lee and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.
- 2) Authorizing a carting services - food waste pick-up and disposal agreement with Sand Pro Disposal, d/b/a Suburban Carting
Trustee Lee made a motion to approve resolution; motion was seconded by Trustee Howell and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.

- 3) Approving vouchers in the amount of \$339,967.89
Consisting of Abstract #23 for \$82,302.08
Abstract #24 for \$253,435.38
Abstract #25 for \$3,551.39
T&A for December for \$679.04
The three largest invoices paid were:
\$144,157.57 for health insurance for January
\$20,353.97 for Chase for interest payment
\$12,014.00 for Tri-State Elevator for Elevator repairs

Trustee Howell made a motion to approve resolution; motion was seconded by Trustee Andino and upon roll motion was carried by a vote 5-0.

DISCUSSION

- 1) Consideration to move the annual Tuckahoe Village election from the third Tuesday in March to the Tuesday next succeeding the first Monday in November
Discussion was held at first opportunity to address the board on agenda items.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS TO THE BOARD

POLICE- Chief Costanzo voiced his concerns regarding bail reform. He thanked the Board and Shelly Mayer for addressing the issue.

DPW- Frank DiMarco gave an explanation on the food scrapping program.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR- David Burke wants all to know the audit is on the website.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Mayor Luisi announced the following:

Presentation from Sustainable Westchester: Community Choice Aggregation Program

Tuckahoe Community Center – January 23, 2020 at 7:00pm

Next Village Board Meeting – February 10, 2020 at 7:00pm

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER REPORTS

► TRUSTEE Andino informed us that TESC is on Facebook and twitter. Also Tuckahoe is interested in beehives. ECAP's MLK breakfast is January 20th "Our Unity is our Strength" theme.

► TRUSTEE Lang gave an update on the History Committee which has been in existence for 20 years. He welcome new business "Rising Grind" on Marbledale Road. Trustee Lang also asked all to attend the MLK breakfast.

► TRUSTEE Howell gave an update on the Planning Board which is scheduled for January 21st. On the agenda- 14-16 Columbus Avenue New Fitness Studio , 68 Marbledale Road diving warehouse and storage facility

► TRUSTEE Lee said Damen Maher came to see the Seniors. We congratulate Angela Mondello on her 100 birthday.

► MAYOR Luisi reminded all that every Wednesday he is in his office from 10am on. He addressed issues regarding infrastructure on Main and Winterhill. The Con Edison project is going well and Exit 3 is fully paved.

SECOND OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Anthony Lore voiced his dismay regarding his loss as a fire commissioner. Tom Visci came to his defense referencing a letter that was circulated.

Businesses located on Marbledale Road appealed for parking relief since the meters have been installed citing it is affecting their business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:15PM

Camille DiSalvo, Village Clerk