

VILLAGE OF WEST WINFIELD  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
February 13, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor Thomson, Trustees: S. Smith; J. Murphy, C. Wheat, T. Niederlander  
Village Clerk, S. Van Duren; Fire Chief Al Moxham, Codes Officer, M. Connors  
West Winfield Star

The meeting was held at Bisby Hall and called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Thomson.

**Motion to Authorize** the Clerk Treasurer to pay the bills presented on abstract #9 dated 2/13/2023 was made by Trustee Wheat and seconded by Trustee Smith. Ayes: Thomson, Murphy, Wheat, Niederlander, Smith:  
Nays: None

**Motion to Approve** the Minutes of the January 9th meeting, with corrections, was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Wheat. Ayes: Thomson, Murphy, Niederlander, Wheat and Smith: Nays: None.

**Motion to Approve** the Treasurer's report was made by Trustee Murphy and seconded by Trustee Wheat. Ayes: Thomson, Murphy, Wheat, Niederlander and Smith: Nays: None

**Department Reports:**

**Clerk/Treasurer:**

**Motion to Remove** Eileen Ucekay from the signature card for the safety deposit box at Berkshire Bank and add R Scott Van Duren was made by Trustee Murphy and seconded by Trustee Smith. Ayes: Thomson, Murphy, Wheat, Niederlander, Smith: Nays: None

**Motion for Budget Modification** –to increase A3089 State Aid –(HWB) \$3,229.50, increase A9030.8 Social Security \$229.50, and increase A4510.1 ambulance salary \$3,000 was made by Trustee Wheat and seconded by Trustee Niederlander. Ayes: Thomson, Murphy, Wheat, Niederlander, Smith: Nays: None

The Board will meet on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the library to work on the budget.

**Codes:** M. Connors issued a certificate of Occupancy for 369 W Main St. Owner is interested into turning front of building into commercial market – current construction doesn't meet codes for commercial operation.

A discussion regarding running the EV charging station from the village garage and disconnecting the charging station from the NYSEG pole was held – M. Connors said it is a possibility but the wiring will need to be updated and a cost benefit analysis should be done.

**Streets / Water:** Trustee Smith reported that Dan Barletta will be getting written estimates for the work on Fairview Circle and Fairview Drive. The Board prefers to have the work contracted out in order to free Dan up for other projects. Trustee Smith is working on finding grant funding from area representatives for repairing and upgrading the water system.

**Fire / Ambulance Department:** Fire Chief Moxham reported that there were 5 fire calls and 45 EMS calls (14 unanswered). The grant for air packs has been submitted by the grant writer, if we receive the grant our contribution will be \$10,000. Trustee Murphy presented the 10% Property Tax Exemption Law for Volunteer Fire and Ambulance personnel. A public hearing is set for the March 13<sup>th</sup> board meeting. The department is resurrecting the Junior Fire Fighter Program, 3 people are participating.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Bisby Hall:** Trustee Smith continues looking for a bench for the front of Bisby Hall. Trustee Wheat will look into having one built by the school shop program.

**Clean Energy:** Trustee Wheat attended the MVEDD (Mohawk Valley Economic Development District) meeting regarding the availability of college interns for projects. A list of potential projects will be put together to see if there is a need for an intern. Power Market rebate program is starting to show up on the electric bills for people who signed up for the program.

**Grants:** Nothing to Report

**Zoning / Codes:** Trustee Murphy is working on the rental property registration list and letters.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Employee evaluations – Mayor Thomson sent out updated job descriptions for the DPW Dept. The employee handbook will need to be emailed out for the Board to review and make changes.
- The issue of speeding on South St. was discussed. Discussion was held regarding the purchase of electronic speed signs alerting drivers of their speed. We need to look into possible grants. Discussion also regarding the fact that children are in the area – we will look into putting up Children at Play signs.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Trustee Smith is looking into placing commemorative banners along the poles on Main St – these could be in honor of or in memory of a veteran.
- County Legislature R. Donley has received \$50,000 in ARPA money from Herkimer County. He will distribute the funds throughout the district based on written project proposals. The Village Board and Fire Department will work on a list of proposed projects or items to be submitted for his consideration.

**Motion to Adjourn** the meeting made by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Smith. Ayes: Thomson, Murphy, Wheat, Niederlander and Smith: Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by  
R Scott Van Duren  
Village Clerk Treasurer