

DATE OF MEETING: May 18, 2020
PLACE OF MEETING: Via Conference Call
MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Robert Liffland
Trustee Dan Peters
Trustee Earl Slocum
Trustee John Burweger
Trustee Lauri Taylor

MAYOR LIFFLAND: I'd like to start the meeting with the Pledge. [7:00 P.M.]

DIANA TOMASETTI: The Tomasetti Family. Hello?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: We hear you.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Yes. Yeah, we're all here.

DIANA TOMASETTI: Hi Rob.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Hi, how are you?

DIANA TOMASETTI: I'm good. How are you? [inaudible] Who else is on the line if I may ask?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Uh, the Board, I don't know who else...

DIANA TOMASETTI: The Board's on? Ok, great.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Yeah, the whole Board's on.

DIANA TOMASETTI: Hi guys.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Do you want me to start the Pledge or are you gonna start it?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Yeah, you can start it Dan.

All: Pledge of Allegiance

VILLAGE CLERK: Before we start the meeting can I just do a roll call vote? Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Here.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Here.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Here.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Here.

VILLAGE CLERK: Thank you.

VILLAGE CLERK: Did you want me to read the agenda off, Rob?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Please, cause my eyes aren't the best yet.

VILLAGE CLERK: First item of business is to approve the Building Department, Planning Board and ZBA resuming business functions.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: So moved.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Second.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: All in favor?

BOARD: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Would you like me to do roll call votes, Rob, so everyone knows how you are voting?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Please. That would be great.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Yes. Oh I'm sorry.

VILLAGE CLERK: Rob Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Yes.

VILLAGE CLERK: Dan Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Earl Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: John Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Lauri Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Approved. The next item is to approve the annual MS4 Report.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Do we have a motion?

JENNIFER STREHLE: Jennifer Strehle.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: I'll make the motion.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: And I'll second it.

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Second.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Second.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: All in favor?

BOARD: Aye.

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Let her do the roll call.

VILLAGE CLERK: Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Approved.

VILLAGE CLERK: The next item is to approve the Tax Installment Resolution

TRUSTEE PETERS: So moved.

VILLAGE CLERK: I didn't know if you wanted me to read that, Rob?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: I'll second it.

VILLAGE CLERK: I'm sorry. Who made the motion?

TRUSTEE PETERS: I did. Dan Peters.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: And Burweger seconded.

VILLAGE CLERK: Did you want that read into the, uh, record?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Please.

VILLAGE CLERK: WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pawling recognizes that the current COVID 19 pandemic is creating significant financial hardship for the residents of the Village of Pawling, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has the power pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §1434 to provide for the payment of Village Taxes in installments, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby resolves to set the collection of Village Taxes as follows:

A. On and after the adoption of this resolution the Village real property taxes may be paid in two (2) installments of approximately equal amounts.

B. The taxpayer is not obligated to pay by installment and may pay the entire tax bill in whole by July 1 without penalty or interest.

C. If any installment is not paid on or before the date it is due, additional interest shall be added as provided by §§1432 and 924-a of the Real Property Tax Law for each month or part thereof until paid. No such installment may be paid unless all prior installments, including interest shall have been paid or shall be paid at the same time.

D. If paying by installment, the first installment shall be due and payable to the Village Treasurer no later than July 1, with no interest. Failure or neglect by an owner of real property to pay the first installment on time as herein provided shall be construed as an election to pay the total amount of taxes in one payment in the manner provided by law, and shall thereby disqualify the taxpayer from the installment payment option. Such failure and neglect to pay timely will result in the standard interest, penalties and other charges set forth in the Real Property Tax Law.

E. The second installment shall be due and payable to the Village Treasurer on or before September 1. Failure or neglect to make this second installment payment timely will result in the standard interest, penalties and other charges set forth in the Real Property Tax Law.

F. Taxes which are paid through a real property tax escrow account may not be paid in installments.

G. Unless renewed this resolution shall apply only to the 2020-2021 tax year.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Thank you everyone.

VILLAGE CLERK: Should I do a roll call vote?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Yes.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Yes, please.

VILLAGE CLERK: Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Yes.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Resolution was approved.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Thank you again everyone.

VILLAGE CLERK: Next item is to approve the Pawling Central School District's use of the Village Green.

TRUSTEE PETERS: So moved.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Second.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: And I'll second it.

VILLAGE CLERK: Roll call vote. Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Yes.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Uhm, the next item is to approve the Metro North Treasurer's Report for April 2020.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: So moved.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Second.

VILLAGE CLERK: Roll call vote.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: All in favor.

VILLAGE CLERK: Mayor Robert Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Approved. Uh, the next item is to approve the minutes from April 20, 2020 and May 4, 2020.

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: So moved.

TRUSTEE PETERS: So moved.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Second.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Second

VILLAGE CLERK: Roll call. Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Approved and the next item is a motion to pay the Metro North bills in the amount of \$11,419.18.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Do we have a motion?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: So moved.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: So moved.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Second.

VILLAGE CLERK: Roll call. Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: I didn't know if you wanted to do anything at this point, Rob.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Uhm, it just goes to show you with technology today that, uhm, we are thankful for that and without it we wouldn't be able to do this.

VILLAGE CLERK: Before we go into Executive Session I received one, uhm, item via email that was asked to be read into the, uh, Public Comment. Is that ok to do now?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Sure.

VILLAGE CLERK: This was received today at 1:26 from Steve Goldberg, uhm, and it just says – "In the last meeting we had a productive discussion on the budget. However, one item which was not discussed was Building Inspector (total) compensation. The actual for last year was roughly \$27,000 and the budgeted amount is \$67,000 – a 60% increase. Is there a reason for this increase? Is the amount budgeted/anticipated fixed or is it possible it could be lower? Any insights would be useful." Uhm, normally I would forward this to Liz but she is not here today or tomorrow.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Do you have any insight? I mean I believe it's not – it's the entire budget, isn't it? Or you can't respond...

VILLAGE CLERK: I'd rather not comment because I really wasn't a part of the budget preparations. I'd really rather have Liz address it when she comes back.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Ok, alright that...yeah...

VILLAGE CLERK: I have his email address so I can have her reach out to him.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Yeah.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Could we also, since it was read into the meeting tonight we could have Liz get an answer and have it part of the minutes for tonight.

VILLAGE CLERK: Definitely. Uh huh.

TRUSTEE PETERS: OK.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Do we need a motion to go into Executive Session?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Yes.

VILLAGE CLERK: If there is nothing further, yes.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Do we have a motion to go into Executive Session?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: I'll make that a motion.

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: So moved.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Do we have a second?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Seconded.

VILLAGE CLERK: Roll call on that. Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

[7:10 P.M.]

VILLAGE CLERK: What's gonna happen is the Board is going to leave this conference call to go into an Executive Session call. This call will remain open if you want to stay on the line for when we come back.

[Motion to close Executive Session and return to regular session at 7:53 P.M. was made before recording began again.]

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Ok, so we gotta to go back?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Roll call [inaudible]

VILLAGE CLERK: I'm sorry who made the motion and second? I was doing something, I'm sorry. Lauri made the motion? Who made the second?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Lauri made the motion.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Burweger seconded it.

VILLAGE CLERK: Ok, so the roll call. Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: We are back in regular session. I don't know if you have anything else to discuss or if you just want to adjourn.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: I just want to say that –uhm, thank you for your help in getting this all organized and hopefully that the Planning Board and ZBA can understand that this does work.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: One note on that – Jen Strehle was trying to get in touch with me to discuss, I guess, a zoom meeting that they want to get set up and they are trying to hire some outside person to set it up for them.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Yeah...

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: I just got the email a few minutes ago

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Did you look at the estimate?

TRUSTEE PETERS: \$110.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Yeah...I don't know why...

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: No, no, the estimate is for \$165 because if you look at it the time frame of when we would need assistance is after 6 P.M. and it's time and a half.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: You're right.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Oh.

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: I see that.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: And there are plenty of people we can get assistance from without having to pay that type of fee.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Yeah, I tend to agree. I was not in favor of this and in fact I'm not sure that even Zoom is the right format for them.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Well, I've been on a lot of Zooms – I was on a Zoom where the person was able to share their screen with a PowerPoint presentation to provide training and it went very well, so it is possible for someone to be able to do that.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Alright, so if we are not going to engage somebody we need to, you know, move forward as quickly as possible in finding someone who will help us without a charge.

STEVE GOLDBERG: Dan, this is Steve Goldberg. I'll do it for free for you guys, ok? It's very easy and I am happy to help.

TRUSTEE PETERS: [Noise]

MAYOR LIFFLAND: You're hired.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Thank you Steve.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: I don't know what the rest of the Board thinks.

STEVE GOLDBERG: I do have a question for you guys if you don't mind.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Go ahead

TRUSTEE PETERS: We never mind.

STEVE GOLDBERG: Thank you, uhm, you know I just wanted to say that the last couple of meetings where the, uh, agenda also included materials that allowed to pre-read was sort of a mixed bag for you guys. I know that. I know that, you know, a lot of people maybe didn't use the material to ask productive questions but for those of us who are super interested in your activities, uhm, having access if possible to the M4 report or to why the school wants to use the Village Green or any of those things is-is really, uhm, very productive and very appreciated. Uhm, so, uh, I would just like to ask if you could make every effort please to go back to that – to that level of transparency is really, uhm, helpful and useful.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Alright, you know, I would say, Steve, that we do everything that we possibly can to be transparent and, uh, and your suggestions are welcome and we will try to be accommodating in that respect but, but, we don't – were not in the business of hiding anything behind closed doors here...

STEVE GOLDBERG: I know

TRUSTEE PETERS: We, uh,

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Dan, can I speak to the question regarding the MS4? I was the one that assisted in putting the MS4 Report together and we first needed to have the Board approve it and then now it will be put on the website for viewing from everybody and you can submit comments if you have any.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Thank you.

STEVE GOLDBERG: No, I knew you guys are not trying to hide anything I'm just saying, for example, you know marking a set of the minutes as draft and then voting on them – all of these things, even if it is a draft report, you know, is super useful, right? To get the draft budget that Liz put together and allowed people to ask, I know some questions were crazy, but it allowed people to ask great questions and, you know, some horrible ones, I get that, but

ultimately I think that every effort that can be made is useful. I know you are not trying to hide anything, I'm just making that suggestion.

TRUSTEE PETERS: No, I mean we do try to do that, and like I said your input is welcome but, you know, we really do try to get it right.

STEVE GOLDBERG: I know you do.

TRUSTEE PETERS: And uhm...

STEVE GOLDBERG: I know you do. I understand that. And listen, if whoever, if Bill needs to reach out to discuss how to do a massive Zoom or whatever I'm happy to help, I'm always available. Rob has my number and happy to do it.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Thank you.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Alright.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Thank you.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Thank you, Steve.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Thank you.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Any other questions? What was that? Any other questions?

TRUSTEE PETERS: No, I didn't hear anything. Do you need a motion to adjourn?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Uhm, I'm just wondering what everyone was thinking with the help that was just offered to us?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Well, I mean if he can help Jen get that set up I think it is a plus. I don't know what everybody else thinks.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Yeah, we also had someone from Keane and Bean that was willing to help any of the municipalities. There is also probably somebody at Dutchess County that can help as well so we have, certainly, avenues to get assistance in setting up the Zoom.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Ok.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: So, Lauri, do you want to look into that and then give us what your thoughts?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Ok.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: I'd appreciate it and then we have Steve and we go from there.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Ok.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Sounds good.

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Thank you everyone – have a good night.

TRUSTEE PETERS: Motion to adjourn?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Motion to adjourn.

TRUSTEE PETERS: So moved.

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Second.

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Second.

VILLAGE CLERK: Can I do a roll call?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Yes.

VILLAGE CLERK: Mayor Liffland?

MAYOR LIFFLAND: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Peters?

TRUSTEE PETERS: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Slocum?

TRUSTEE SLOCUM: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Burweger?

TRUSTEE BURWEGER: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Trustee Taylor?

TRUSTEE TAYLOR: Aye.

VILLAGE CLERK: Meeting is adjourned.

[8:00 P.M.]

Village Clerk