

NOT APPROVED

DRAFT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE
VILLAGE OF CHESTNUT RIDGE
(Unofficial Meeting Minutes)
["Zoom" Platform]

Regularly Scheduled Village Board meeting of April 23, 2020*

8:00 pm

277 Old Nyack Turnpike

Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977

PRESENT

ROSARIO PRESTI, JR.

MAYOR

GRANT VALENTINE

DEPUTY MAYOR

RICHARD MILLER

TRUSTEE

CHAIM ROSE

TRUSTEE

PAUL VAN ALSTYNE

TRUSTEE

WALTER S. SEVASTIAN

**VILLAGE
ATTORNEY**

ABSENT

FLORENCE A. MANDEL – phone in

VILLAGE CLERK

On March 7, 2020, in Executive Order No. 202.1, Governor Cuomo suspended certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law to permit a Village Board to meet and take actions authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access and authorizing such meeting to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. The Village will be activating a remote meeting platform for this Thursday, April 23, 2020 Village Board meeting, which will enable residents to watch a livestream of the meeting and comment on the Zoom platform in compliance with the Executive Order:

Phone in: 646-568-7788

ID#: 756-079-8481

URL/ID: <https://zoom.us/j/7560798481>

Copies of the Tentative Budget are available for public inspection on the Village of Chestnut Ridge website (chestnutridgevillage.org).

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Mayor's report.

- **We are permitted to hold this Village Board meeting this way as per Executive order, No. 202.1; limiting the public in the room; physical distancing being practiced.**
- **Moment of silence: people who have died as a result of the Pandemic and in support of their families and tribute to the people who work and are fighting on the front lines in an effort to combat this Pandemic.**
- **May 13th workshop cancelled.**
- **Governor's pause now until May 15th.**
- **May 23rd we will probably have another "Zoom" meeting ; don't anticipate gathering in large groups for quite some time.**

3. Open Floor: Public discussion of Agenda Item.

- **Hold off on public portion of Agenda until the end of the meeting as the Agenda is only the Budget, Mayoral appointments and some housekeeping matters.**

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting of March 26, 2020.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valentine

SECOND: Trustee Miller

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve Village Board Minutes of March 26, 2020.

5. a. Public Hearing on Tentative Budget for fiscal year June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021.

- **Mayor Presti: continues Public Hearing in regard to tax rate going up approximately 5%.**
- **Cap at 1.78, having to utilize surplus; by raising the taxes as we are, will be utilizing less of the surplus; hope is with our continued conservative budgeting, and even taking into account the economic issues going on with the Pandemic, that each year we will be using less and less of the surplus; because of progress with regard to on-going construction and on- going development normally happening in the Village, able to shore up “Nest Egg,” using less and less of the surplus each year; utilizing the surplus in the budget currently at approx. 375K, still have a surplus of \$1,039,000.00; each year, while using less and less of the surplus, will also be saving.**

Jerry Liebelson -31 Midway Rd. Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- **Questioned whether the surplus the Village had was due to the revenues received from the sanitation depot we had here?**

Mr. Friedman:

- **Nice to know the Village is running on a surplus.**

Mayor Presti:

- **Gave explanation Village received an average of \$150,000.00 a year from the transfer station as a host fee twelve years ago; unable tell what that surplus was then; Village utilized t/station revenues and taxes went down for five years; with prudent planning, before my time, Village developed a pretty nice “Nest Egg;” Village utilized that savings; surplus now is not necessarily a result of the t/station; prudent planning.**
- **If we stayed to Cap 1.78, Mayor Presti explained that a house paying \$500.00 in Village taxes would now pay approximately \$510.00 in Village taxes; 5% increase taxes would be \$525.00.**

MOTION: Trustee Miller

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Valentine

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Close the Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget.

b. Resolution No. 2020-20 – To approve FY 2020-2021 Budget for the Village of

RESOLVED that the proposed Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021 is hereby approved and the salaries and wages set forth therein are hereby fixed at the amounts shown therein effective June 1, 2020, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the tax rate is hereby set at \$12.0561 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

MOTION: Trustee Van Alstyne

SECOND: Trustee Rose

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget for the Village of Chestnut Ridge.

6. Resolution No. 2020-21 – To approve Mayor’s limited Slate of Appointments (all other positions held over until further action) and contract renewals.

- **Normal housekeeping appointments.**
- **Few appointments not listed, considered hold overs as the Trustees and I have not had an opportunity to discuss due to Pandemic; those not re-appointed will be held over until can discuss.**

RESOLVED that the Mayor’s limited Slate of the following appointments, and contract renewals, are hereby approved by the Board of Trustees:

- **Grant Valentine Deputy Mayor (term through April 2021).**
- **Florence Mandel Village Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics (term through April 2021).**
- **Lise Chanin Village Treasurer, Deputy Village Clerk, and Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics (term through April 2021).**
- **Walter Sevastian as Village Attorney (a salaried public official), and as Village Prosecutor at an hourly rate of \$150.00 (term through April 2021).**
- **Allan Rubin as Planning Board member for a term to expire April 2024.**
- **Allan Rubin as Chairperson of Planning Board for a term to expire April 2021.**
- **Marc Levine as Deputy Chairperson of Planning Board for a term to expire April 2021.**
- **Stephen Liebman Chairperson of Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire April 2021.**
- **Duane Penister as Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire April 2025.**
- **Joseph Wiener as Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire April 2024.**
- **Abraham Grunfeld as Architectural Review Board Member for a term to expire April 2022.**

- **Marvin Nyman, CPA as Village Financial Consultant (contract renewed for a period of one (1) year until April of 2021).**
- **Nelson, Pope & Voorhes, LLC as Village Planning Consultants (contract renewed for a period of one (1) year until April of 2021).**
- **Spence Engineering as Village Engineering Consultant (contract renewed for a period of one (1) year until April of 2021).**

MOTION: Trustee Miller

SECOND: Trustee Rose

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve the Mayor’s limited slate of appointments, and contract renewals, are hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

- 7. Resolution No. 2020-22 designating the Rockland Journal News as the Official Village Newspaper.**

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valentine

SECOND: Trustee Van Alstyne

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve the Rockland Journal News as the Official Village Newspaper.

- 8. Resolution No. 2020-23 designating NY CLASS, M&T Bank, Sterling National Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase, and Key Bank as Official Village Depositories.**

RESOLVED, that NY CLASS, M&T Bank, Sterling National Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase, and Key Bank are hereby designated as Official Village Depositories.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valentine

SECOND: Trustee Rose

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve Resolution No. 2020-23 designating NY CLASS, M&T Bank, Sterling National Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase, and Key Bank as Official Village Depositories.

- 9. Resolution No. 2020-24 designating locations for official Village Postings.**

RESOLVED, the following locations are designated for official Village postings: Village Hall, Village Meeting Room, Village Justice Court.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valentine

SECOND: Trustee Miller

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve the Village postings.

10. **Resolution No. 2020-25 approving the Village of Chestnut Ridge’s Procurement and annual Policies.**

RESOLVED, that the Village of Chestnut Ridge Procurement Policy and annual Policies are hereby ratified for FY 2020-2021.

MOTION: Trustee Van Alstyne

SECOND: Trustee Rose

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve the Chestnut Ridge Procurement Policy.

11. **Resolution No 2020-26 approving the Village of Chestnut Ridge’s 2020 Agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension for EPA Phase 2 Stormwater Regulation education and outreach requirements; and also, to approve the Village participating in the MS4 Stormwater Grant with Stormwater Consortium and Rockland County.**

RESOLVED that the contract with the Cornell Cooperative Extension to provide state mandated Stormwater Education services to the Village of Chestnut Ridge effective April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021, at a cost not to exceed \$1,250.00 per year, is hereby accepted, and it is further

RESOLVED that the Village is authorized to participate in the MS4 Stormwater Grant with Stormwater Consortium and Rockland County, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any necessary agreements to effectuate this Resolution with Rockland County or the Cornell Cooperative Extension for said services, subject to the approval of the Village Attorney.

- **Martin Spence, our Village Engineer participates in and approves and recommends.**

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valentine

SECOND: Trustee Van Alstyne

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve the Village of Chestnut Ridge Procurement Policy and annual Policies ratified for FY 2020-2021.

12. ***[On Agenda for continuing Public Hearing purposes only]***

a. **Public Hearing for Special Permit Application of Threefold Educational Foundation and School – west side of Hungry Hollow Road (66.16-1-4 & 56) - request for a Special Permit for a new school of general instruction building (the “Otto Specht School”). The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to hold over the Public Hearing request for a Special Permit for a new school of general instruction (the Otto Specht School”).**

b. Resolution No. 2020-27. Resolution continuing Public Hearing Special Permit Application of Threefold Educational Foundation and School is continued until May 21, 2020.

RESOLVED that the Public Hearing on the Special Permit Application of Threefold Educational Foundation and School of is continued until May 21, 2020.

MOTION: Trustee Miller

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Valentine

The Board was polled 5-0 to Approve Resolution No. 2020-27 to continue until May 21, 2020.

13. *[On Agenda for continuing Public Hearing purposes only]*

Resolution No. 2020-28. Resolution continuing Public Hearing Special Permit Application of Yeshivas Ohr V'Daas until May 21, 2020.

a. Public Hearing for Special Permit Application of Yeshivas Ohr V'Daas – 972 Chestnut Ridge Road - request for a Special Permit for a school for special education with a student body not to exceed 80 students.

b. Resolution No. 2020-28 Resolution continuing Public Hearing until May 21, 2020.

RESOLVED that the Public Hearing on the Special Permit Application of Yeshivas Ohr V'Daas – 972 Chestnut Ridge Road to hold over the Public Hearing until May 21, 2020 is continued until May 21, 2020.

MOTION: Trustee Rose

SECOND: Trustee Miller

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve Resolution No. 2020-28.

14. **Resolution No. 2020-29. Resolution to approve agreement with B&B Pool and Spa Center to open the water feature at the Village Park.**

RESOLVED that the Agreement with B&B Pools to open the water feature at the Village Park is hereby renewed (the contracted amount is \$250.00).

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valentine

SECOND: Trustee Miller

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve Resolution No. 2020-29.

15. **Resolution No. 2020-30 approving Abstract of Audited Claims.**

RESOLVED, that General Fund Claims set forth on pages 1 through 2 in the aggregate amount of \$ 53,332.97 as set forth on Abstract No. 2020-4 dated April 23, 2020, as submitted by the Village Treasurer, are hereby approved.

MOTION: Trustee Miller

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Valentine

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve the Abstract of Audited Claims.

16. **Open Floor Public Discussion.**

- Marc Levine wanted to compliment Mayor Presti and the Board for their appointment of Trustee Chaim Rose to the Village Board and offer Trustee Rose his congratulations on his appointment.
- Mr. Zelenka complimented Mayor Presti and suggested we hold more meetings by calling in with the use of technology.
- Stated “Zoom” was a great idea for transparency.

Mayor Presti stated he will take his recommendation to “heart”.

- Thanked everyone for joining in the meeting.

17. **Motion to Adjourn.**

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valentine

SECOND: Trustee Rose

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Adjourn the Village Board Meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence A. Mandel

Village Clerk

Recording Secretary

Resolutions

1. Resolution No. 2020-20 – To approve FY 2020-2021 Budget

RESOLVED that the proposed Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021 is hereby approved and the salaries and wages set forth therein are hereby fixed at the amounts shown therein effective June 1, 2020, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the tax rate is hereby set at \$12.0561 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

2. Resolution No. 2020-21 – To approve Mayor’s limited Slate of Appointments and contract renewals

RESOLVED that the Mayor’s limited Slate of the following appointments, and contract renewals, are hereby approved by the Board of Trustees:

- Grant Valentine Deputy Mayor (term through April 2021).
- Florence Mandel Village Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics (term through April 2021).
- Lise Chanin Village Treasurer, Deputy Village Clerk, and Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics (term through April 2021).
- Walter Sevastian as Village Attorney (a salaried public official), and as Village Prosecutor at an hourly rate of \$150.00 (term through April 2021).
- Allan Rubin as Planning Board member for a term to expire April 2024.
- Allan Rubin as Chairperson of Planning Board for a term to expire April 2021.
- Marc Levine as Deputy Chairperson of Planning Board for a term to expire April 2021.
- Stephen Liebman Chairperson of Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire April 2021.

- Duane Penister as Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire April 2025
- Joseph Weiner as Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire April 2024.
- Abraham Grunfeld as Architectural Review Board Member for a term to expire April 2022.
- Marvin Nyman, CPA as Village Financial Consultant (contract renewed for a period of one (1) year until April of 2021).
- Nelson, Pope & Voorhes, LLC as Village Planning Consultants (contract renewed for a period of one (1) year until April of 2021).
- Spence Engineering as Village Engineering Consultant (contract renewed for a period of one (1) year until April of 2021).

3. Resolution No. 2020-22 – Designating the Official Village Newspaper.

RESOLVED, that the Rockland Journal News is the Official Village Newspaper.

4. Resolution No. 2020-23 – Designating official Village Depositories.

RESOLVED, that NY CLASS, M&T Bank, Sterling National Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase, and Key Bank are hereby designated as Official Village Depositories.

5. Resolution No. 2020-24 – Designating locations for official Village posting.

RESOLVED, the following locations are designated for official Village postings:
 Village Hall, Village Meeting Room, Village Justice Court

6. Resolution No. 2020-25 to ratify Procurement and annual Policies.

RESOLVED, that the Village of Chestnut Ridge Procurement Policy and annual Policies are hereby ratified for FY 2020-2021.

7. Resolution No. 2020-26 -

Approving the Village of Chestnut Ridge's 2020 Agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension for EPA Phase 2 Stormwater Regulation education and outreach requirements; and also, to approve the Village participating in the MS4 Stormwater Grant with Stormwater Consortium and Rockland County.

RESOLVED that the contract with the Cornell Cooperative Extension to provide state mandated Stormwater Education services to the Village of Chestnut Ridge effective April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021, at a cost not to exceed \$1,250.00 per year, is hereby accepted, and it is further

RESOLVED that the Village is authorized to participate in the MS4 Stormwater Grant with Stormwater Consortium and Rockland County, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any necessary agreements to effectuate this Resolution with Rockland County or the Cornell Cooperative Extension for said services, subject to the approval of the Village Attorney.

8. Resolution No. 2020-27. Resolution continuing Public Hearing Special Permit Application of Threefold Educational Foundation and School until May 21, 2020.

RESOLVED that the Public Hearing on the Special Permit Application of Threefold Educational Foundation and School of is continued until May 21. 2020.

9. Resolution No. 2020-28. Resolution continuing Public Hearing Special Permit Application of Yeshivas Ohr V'Daas until May 21, 2020.

RESOLVED that the Public Hearing on the Special Permit Application of Threefold Educational Foundation and School of is continued until May 21. 2020.

10. Resolution No. 2020-29 to approve agreement with B&B Pool and Spa Center to open the water feature at the Village Park.

RESOLVED that the Agreement with B&B Pools to open the water feature at the Village Park is hereby renewed (the contracted amount is \$250.00).

11. Resolution No. 2020-30:

RESOLVED, that General Fund Claims set forth on pages 1 through ___ in the aggregate amount of \$ _____ as set forth on Abstract No. 2020-4 dated _____, as submitted by the Village Treasurer, are hereby approved.