

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board of Trustees
Village of Kenmore

Municipal Building
August 17, 2021

PRESENT:	Hon. Patrick Mang	Mayor
	Hon. Katherine Bestine	Trustee
	Hon. Paul Catalano	Trustee
	Hon. Joseph DeCecco	Trustee
	Hon. Katie Burd	Trustee

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THREE (3) FINANCIAL AND TWO (2) PERSONNEL/HIRE MATTERS

Trustee DeCecco moved to go into Executive Session to discuss three (3) financial and two (2) personnel/hire matters.

Seconded by Trustee Bestine and adopted by a full vote in the affirmative.

Trustee Burd moved to end the Executive Session.

Seconded by Trustee Bestine and adopted by a full vote of all members present.

Kathleen P. Johnson
Village Clerk/Treasurer

CORPORATION PROCEEDINGS

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PRESENT:	Hon. Patrick Mang	Mayor
	Hon. Katherine Bestine	Trustee
	Hon. Paul Catalano	Trustee
	Hon. Joseph DeCecco	Trustee
	Hon. Katie Burd	Trustee

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Mang. The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD APPROVED THE HIRE OF AN AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Trustee Bestine moved to approve the hiring of Joe Epolito as a full-time Assistant Automotive Mechanic for the Department of Public Works, effective September 2, 2021, at a pay rate of \$28.72/hr.

Seconded by Trustee DeCecco and adopted by a full vote of all members present.

BOARD APPROVED THE HIRING OF A PART-TIME EMPLOYEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Trustee Burd moved to approve the hiring of Glenn Armstrong as a part-time employee for the Department of Public Works effective August 31, 2021, at a pay rate of \$22.00/hr.

Seconded by Trustee Catalano and adopted by a full vote of all members present.

BOARD APPROVED THE HIRING OF A PART-TIME CROSSING GAURD.

Trustee DeCecco moved to approve the hiring of Donna Dilliot as a part-time Crossing Guard for the Department of Public Works effective September 1, 2021.

Seconded by Trustee Bestine and adopted by a full vote of all members present.

BOARD APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW PLANNING BOARD MEMBER TO FILL AN UNEXPIRED TERM.

Trustee Catalano moved to approve the appointment of Sara Schumacher-Marks to the Village of Kenmore Planning Board, to fill an unexpired term, which will expire April 2025.

Seconded by Trustee Burd and adopted by a full vote of all members present.

BOARD APPROVED A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PERTAINING TO A POLICE TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT.

Trustee Bestine moved to approve a Resolution amending the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget, as it pertains to a Police Traffic Safety Grant. A copy of the Resolution has been appended to these minutes for record purposes.

Seconded by Trustee DeCecco and adopted by a full vote of all members present.

BOARD APPROVED A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PERTAINING TO THE WARDMAN STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

Trustee Burd moved to approve a Resolution amending the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget, as it pertains to the Wardman Street Reconstruction Project. A copy of the Resolution has been appended to these minutes for record purposes.

Seconded by Trustee Catalano and adopted by a full vote of all members present.

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS.

Trustee Burd offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption: **RESOLVED**, that the Mayor be and he hereby is authorized to sign the Abstract of Audited Vouchers dated August 17, 2021 in the amount of \$273,192.91; General Fund \$122,750.30; Water Fund \$146.19; Sewer Fund \$110,910.51; Community Development Fund \$33,192.91; and Capital Fund \$6,193.75 to direct the Treasurer to pay each of the listed claimants in the amount

appearing opposite his/her name.

Seconded by Trustee Catalano and adopted by a full vote in the affirmative.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT/QUESTIONS

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to be heard.

Pat Augello, 54 Victoria Blvd., inquired as to the status of the St. Paul's School renovation project, and asked if the building will be used for subsidized housing. Mayor Mang replied that the owner will be providing affordable housing to those 55 years of age and over. He explained that there are new owners, and that the project was reviewed by the board. He stated that the Board is happy that the project will be moving forward, as they, too, have been frustrated by the building's deterioration. He said that Dr. Daniels is the new owner and that the Board carefully reviewed the new PUD application prior to its approval. The plans are substantially the same – providing 1 (and some 2) bedroom units for those 55 and older. The Mayor stated that the board doesn't want the building to remain vacant. They, too, look forward to the start of construction.

Mr. Augello stated there are animals going in and out of the building, that windows are open and that ivy is growing on Tower side. They've called the police when they observe problems. They also spoke with Adam DeFelice, who they thought was the owner.

Mayor Mang explained that there have been delays due to change of ownership in the property, and that the prior owner couldn't get financing. He stated that Larry Bicz is no longer the owner and that the new owner is securing funding through historic tax credits. As part of this funding, the State requires, he believes, subsidized housing pricing for those 55 and over.

Debbie Kurtz and Dan Rattan, 70 Enola complained about the property at 66 Enola. They stated that the property has bats, an unlicensed car, lots of debris in the back yard, and that the residents torch trees. In addition, no one is mowing or picking up after the dog. They have called the county for baiting, due to rats.

Building Inspector Michael Berns stated that the Department of Public Works has tagged the owner for trash violations and that he has also sent out violation notices. He explained that the Justice Courts have only recently started hearing housing and violation cases. Court is the next step when violations are not addressed, so there hasn't been any option available during COVID to address these cases. At present the court is behind due to the backlog.

The Mayor commented that he has seen the property and it is in bad shape. He said that, unfortunately, we have residents that don't care about their properties. It is a constant battle, trying to address these properties. He commented that he finds it hard to understand, given that home ownership is one of, if not the biggest, investment people have. People should want to maintain and improve their properties. He also reiterated that things are worse, due to the court being closed for so long, as this left the Village with no options for violators.

Ms Kurtz also asked about regulations for above ground pools, because their neighbor has a pool and the water goes into her basement. Building Inspector Berns reviewed the regulations and said he would look into this to see if there are any violations.

Police Chief Phillips stated that he will look into allegations of drug dealing.

Elisabeth Creed, 27 Columbia inquired about 3199 Delaware Avenue. The Mayor noted that violations have gone out and the Village continues to call the owner, but that, until the court back log is addressed, there are limited options to address non-compliance. He also noted, that since the owner lives in Canada, there has been another obstacle with limits on border closures. The Mayor noted that it's unfortunate that the Village needs to babysit some properties.

Ms. Creed also questioned if the Village can do anything to attract businesses. The Mayor responded that the Kenmore Business Association and Ken-Ton Chamber are good resources.

Trustee Burd stated that she is very active because she believes that there is much to be gained by strengthening ties between the Business Association and the residents, especially between those residential properties next to businesses. She believes that these relationships will empower residents to work with businesses, which in turn helps to grow communities.

Trustee Catalano said that the Kenmore Business Association has put on several community events, and those events provide an opportunity to show off Kenmore and its residential and business properties.

Trustee Burd stated that these events also provide opportunities for residents and businesses to get involved and work together, which in turn helps to build our community.

Debbie Kurtz asked how the Village handles violations where the landlord is absent. The Building Inspector explained that all violations are handled the same way, with notice sent to the owner of record.

As no one else wished to be heard, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on September 7, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Kathleen P. Johnson
Village Clerk/Treasurer