The Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at Lawrence Village Hall, 196 Central Avenue, Lawrence, New York 11559.

Those members present were: Mayor Alex H. Edelman

Deputy Mayor Michael A. Fragin

Trustee Uri Kaufman

Trustee Daniel J. Goldstein

Trustee Syma F. Diamond

Also present were: Ronald Goldman, Village Administrator

Lina Fusco, Deputy Village Treasurer

Village Attorney, Peter Bee, Esq.

Absent were: Gerry Castro, Deputy Village Clerk

Alison Cohen, Secretary to the BOT

WORK SESSION - Mayor Edelman called the work session to order at 7:03 p.m.

Board Action: No Board action was taken.

Work Session ended at 8:07 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING** - Mayor Edelman called the regular meeting to order at 8:10 p.m.

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

<u>PUBLIC HEARING #1</u> – Public Hearing regarding the 2019 – 2020 Tentative General Budget as presented to the Board by the Village Clerk

**Board Action:** Deputy Mayor Fragin moved to open the Public Hearing regarding the 2019 – 2020 Tentative General Budget. Trustee Diamond seconded the motion. All in favor.

Deputy Mayor Fragin pointed out that while he believes and has been informed that this is a responsible budget he is concerned that the growth in Appropriations (the growth in spending), is going up a significant amount, more this year than we've had in the past. He went on to say that he has been advised that there are special items. Deputy Treasurer Lina Fusco responded that the spending has gone up about \$300,000.00, because the Village has some roadwork "we're proposing to do as well as the possibility that the Village's computer server is starting to decline, so these items had to be accounted for in the proposed budget. But the bulk of the \$300,000.00 is for the roadwork". Discussion ensued in this regard and Ms. Fusco added that the Village is hoping to collect some reimbursement funds from CHIPs as well. Deputy Mayor Fragin responded that he believes that the roadwork is definitely viable. Mayor Edelman

added that the Village has some preliminary estimates for the computer costs as well. Deputy Treasurer Fusco stated that the cost for the computers and server would be approximately \$80,000.00. Ms. Fusco added that the Village is trying to hold off for as long as possible, but if that server starts to go the Village will have to replace it. She went on to say that the roadwork is approximately \$300,000.00 and that's really "where you see the bulk of the difference". Deputy Mayor Fragin's final comment is; "I know it's complicated for the public to understand, or even sometimes when you're sitting here to understand, that we are: No. 1 – staying within the tax cap but because our overall assessments continue to decline, we have to adjust and make the necessary adjustments for that". Deputy Treasurer Lina Fusco affirmed Deputy Mayor Fragin's statement. Deputy Mayor Fragin continued; "And so while reading this document would indicate that the Village will be raising taxes, in fact, we are essentially keeping it flat". Ms. Fusco's response was; "Correct. We have to adjust the rate to account for the decrease in assessment". Deputy Mayor Fragin inquired if Ms. Fusco had any idea of what the impact of the newly proposed assessment system by Nassau County will have regarding the 2020 - 2021 General Budget. Ms. Fusco stated that the Village does not know the impact yet and that she is currently working off the prior year's assessment roll. She offered what she thinks the Village may have to do next year is actually take the County's roll and adjust our rate to fit in with theirs, because "they are at a guarter". This discussion continued regarding the new assessment system, which at this point is still an open question and issue. Trustee Kaufman inquired regarding the Federal Disaster Assistance, which was addressed by Ms. Fusco. Trustee Goldstein inquired as to the medical insurance increase(s) on the last page of the proposed General Budget, which Ms Fusco advised were dictated by the Nassau County Civil Service Commission. The discussion continued on to employee salaries and benefits. Trustee Kaufman stated that he felt that these numbers were "very reasonable".

**Board Action:** Upon hearing no further comments or discussion, Mayor Edelman moved to close the Public Hearing regarding the 2019 – 2020 Tentative General Budget. Trustee Goldstein seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Board Action:** The Board moved to adopt the proposed final 2019 – 2020 Tentative General Budget unanimously, as is, with no changes. All in favor.

<u>Adoption of the 2019 – 2020 General Budget</u> (available at Village Hall and on the Village website)

**Board Action:** Mayor Edelman moved, pursuant to section 5-508 of the NYS Village Law, to approve the final 2019 – 2020 General Budget unchanged as the 2019 – 2020 General Budget of estimated revenues and expenditures of the Village of Lawrence for the fiscal year June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020 (available on the Village website); and the same be approved and adopted as filed. Trustee Goldstein seconded the motion. All in favor. (The motion carried.).

Set tax rate and authorize issuance of tax warrants

**Board Action:** Mayor Edelman moved to adopt the following Resolution regarding the collection of taxes under the approved/adopted 2019 – 2020 Budget:

#### WHEREAS,

- (a) A budget of estimated revenues and expenditures of the Village of Lawrence for the fiscal year June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020 was adopted by the Board of Trustees at this meeting following a Public Hearing thereon pursuant to Section 5-508 of the Village Law; and
- (b) Taxes in the amount of \$2,610,118.00 are required for the purpose of meeting the proposed expenditures provided for in such budget; and
- (c) It has been further determined that such taxes be apportioned against all of the taxable property in the Village of Lawrence as set forth on the 2019 assessment roll, at the rate of \$83.00 on each \$100 of assessed valuation thereon, except properties of the Long Island Railroad Company which shall be taxed in accordance with the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law;
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to the provisions of Section 1420 of the Real Property Tax Law, the Village Clerk be and he hereby is authorized and directed to extend and carry out on such roll the amount to be collected from the owners of properties listed therein as hereinabove specified.

Trustee Diamond seconded the motion. All in favor. (The motion carried.)

**Board Action:** Mayor Edelman moved to adopt the following Resolution which would set the tax rate of \$83.00 as reflected in the 2019 – 2020 Tentative Budget:

#### RESOLVED,

(a) That pursuant to Section 1420 of the Real Property Tax Law, the following funds necessary to meet the obligations of the Village of Lawrence for the fiscal year June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020 be raised by levy of tax on all taxable property in the Village of Lawrence as set forth on the 2019 assessment roll of the Village (being the assessment roll completed on April 1, 2019):

Total amount of budget for the fiscal year

June 1, 2019 to and including May 31, 2020 as

adopted by the Board of Trustees following the

Public Hearing thereon held April 11, 2019	\$ <u>5,859,550</u>
LESS: Appropriated Surplus	\$ 713,219
LESS: Estimated Revenues for 2019/20	\$ 2,536,213

Leaving a balance to be raised by Tax Levy of \$ 2,610,118

Page 3 of 11

- (b) That the tax rate for the collection of said Village Tax Levy be fixed at \$83.00 per \$100 of assessed valuation on such taxable property.
- (c) That said taxes shall be collected in two equal installments pursuant to the provisions of Section 1434 of the Real Property Tax Law, the first installment to become due and payable June 1, 2019 and the second installment to become due and payable December 1, 2019; and
- (d) That the Mayor be and he hereby is authorized to execute and deliver to the Village Clerk a warrant directing him/her to proceed with the collection of such taxes, as provided in Article 14 of the Real Property Tax Law. (Attached hereto as "Exhibit A")

Trustee Diamond seconded the motion. All in favor. (The motion carried.)

<u>PUBLIC HEARING #2</u> - Public Hearing regarding the annual 2019 Stormwater Management Report

Village Counsel Peter Bee explained that the 2019 Annual Stormwater Management Report is available for viewing on the Village's website and at Village Hall. He went on to explain that every year the Village is required to file an Annual Stormwater Management Report showing that it is meeting its goals as set forth in the SPDES Permit that was adopted in 2003. An annual Public Hearing is required prior to the annual filing of the aforementioned Report as well.

**Board Action:** Mayor Edelman moved to open the Public Hearing regarding the annual 2019 Stormwater Management Report (MS4). Trustee Goldstein seconded the motion. All in favor.

Deputy Mayor Fragin inquired if there were any changes since last year's Annual Stormwater Management Report. Village Administrator Ronald Goldman responded "no", except that the Village has increased the monitoring of the storm water drains, and also has made arrangements that whereas in the past the Village did not contract the "vacuum-truck" as often. This year, the Village has had the "vacuum-truck" come more often and focused on certain key drains; which seems to be working and is so noted in this year's Report.

**Board Action:** Upon hearing no further comment(s) or discussion, Mayor Edelman moved to close the Public Hearing regarding the annual 2019 Stormwater Management Report (MS4). Trustee Goldstein seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Board Action:** Mayor Edelman moved to adopt the annual 2019 Stormwater Management Report (MS4) as presented to the Board. Trustee Diamond seconded the motion. All in favor.

Village Attorney Peter Bee commented that the 2019 Annual Stormwater Management Report can now be filed as presented to the Board.

Approval of minutes: BOT March 14, 2019

Special BOT March 27, 2019

Board Action: Trustee Kaufman moved the approval of the March 14, 2019 BOT meeting minutes. Mayor Edelman seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Board Action:** Trustee Diamond moved the approval of the March 27, 2019 Special BOT meeting minutes. Trustee Kaufman seconded the motion. All in favor.

## **GOOD & WELFARE**

There were no items raised under Good & Welfare.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Item 1 - Approve Abstracts #'s

General Fund

# 938, 939, 940, 941

Recreation Fund # 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356

Payroll

# 032219, 040519

**Board Action:** Trustee Kaufman moved the approval of General Fund Abstracts #938, #939, #940 and #941. Mayor Edelman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Board Action: Trustee Goldstein moved the approval of Recreation Fund Abstracts #350, #351, #352, #353, #354, #355 and #356. Trustee Kaufman seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Board Action:** Trustee Goldstein moved the approval of Payroll Fund Abstracts #032219 and #040519. Mayor Edelman seconded the motion. All in favor.

# Item 2 – Approval to retain pest control vendor

**Board Action:** Trustee Diamond moved to approve and accept staff's recommendation to classify the action as unlisted under SEQRA, together with a determination of negative declaration, based on the Environmental Assessment Form that has been provided by the vendor. Mayor Edelman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Board Action: Mayor Edelman moved to approve the Mayor to execute the Agreement with Mosquito Seekers as the Village's pest control vendor, in the amount of \$1,000.00 per application; not to exceed a total of \$10,000.00 maximum; consistent with the Village's Procurement Policy. Trustee Goldstein seconded the motion. There was some discussion as to the spraying schedule, contract specifics and "bugs"/errors, black flies vs. green flies, etc. Mayor Edelman stated that this is in addition to the black box

traps that the Village distributes to many residents each year (in season), which are very helpful. All in favor.

#### Item 3 –Announce plans for Passover preparations

Mayor Edelman announced that there would be an e-mail distributed to Village residents (next week) and posted on the Village's website containing all the pertinent information regarding the plans for Passover preparations, including the burning of the Chometz, security information and Sanitary District #1 Passover preparation information. .The Mayor added that the NCPD's Fourth Precinct has agreed to additional patrols/surveillance to monitor the Village since many residents go away over the Passover Holiday. He urged residents to lock their car doors, have their mail, packages and newspapers either picked up or stopped and to be extra vigilant in this regard. Deputy Mayor Fragin mentioned that he had received a letter from Dr. Howard Zucker, New York State Commissioner of Health, which he will circulate to the Board, regarding the measles outbreak.

# Item 4 – Approve the Environmental Facilities Corporation's SRF 2019A Bond Issue – PFA Distribution Agreement

**Board Action:** Mayor Edelman moved to authorize the Mayor to execute the Environmental Facilities Corporation's SRF 2019A Bond Issue – PFA Distribution Agreement, as recommended by the Village's Bond Counsel. Trustee Goldstein seconded the motion. All in favor.

# Item 5 – Approve authorization of KemperSports Management Contract/Agreement

**Board Action:** Deputy Mayor Fragin moved to authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement with KemperSports Management, in substantially the form of the current draft Agreement, which has not yet been finalized by the Village Attorney's office; subject to final approval by Village Counsel Peter Bee. Trustee Diamond seconded the motion. All in favor.

# Item 6 - Appoint Traffic Enforcement Agent Nery Braver

**Board Action:** Trustee Diamond moved to approve the appointment of part-time Traffic Enforcement Agent Nery Braver, at a salary of \$13.00/hour, with no benefits and a maximum of 19.5 hours per week; upon approval by the Nassau County Civil Service Commission. Trustee Goldstein seconded the motion. All in favor.

# Item 7 – Approve quote for gas tank removal

**Board Action:** Trustee Goldstein moved the approval to authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement with C2G Environmental Consultants, the lowest responsible quote, to remove the underground gasoline storage tank located at the LY&CC Golf Maintenance facility, in the amount of \$8,800.00. Trustee Diamond seconded the motion. All in favor.

## Item 8 - Ratify expenditure for Central Avenue roadwork

Village Counsel Peter Bee explained the emergency nature of the abovementioned project and Mayor Edelman and Village Administrator Ronald Goldman commended Village of Lawrence Building Inspector Leo Romanelli and Deputy Village Administrator Gerry Castro, who worked hand-in-hand and were there every day and did a beautiful job at a greatly reduced price.

**Board Action:** Trustee Goldstein moved the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, while in the course of preparing a schedule of road re-pavement within the Village, the Village was advised that the Village of Cedarhurst was redoing Central Avenue to Washington Avenue; and

**WHEREAS**, thereafter, the gas company advised the Village that as a component of its project, they intended to dig trenches along the Village's portion of Central Avenue in order to place a main line; and

WHEREAS, the Village thereafter persuaded and convinced the gas company to expand their project, at its cost, to include all of Central Avenue, curb to curb, a project valued at in excess of \$200,000.00 that would not be borne by the Village; and

WHEREAS, however, the gas company indicated that it would terminate its project at Williams Street, thereby leaving the remaining portion within the Village of Lawrence, which constitutes our entire Business District, unimproved and at risk of needing further future repair; and

**WHEREAS**, the failure of the contractor to complete the roadway through the entire length of Central Avenue would otherwise have left merchants, residents and roadway travelers to travel upon unimproved and potentially unsafe conditions for an uncertain and indeterminate amount of time; and

WHEREAS, given that the machinery necessary to complete the project is currently onsite, and given the already existing disruption to traffic, and given the otherwise potentially unsafe conditions that would have existed, and given that both merchants and residents are expecting the entire length of Lawrence's Central Avenue to be functional, attractive and safe; and

WHEREAS, subject to the Village agreeing immediately (as the contractor was otherwise removing his equipment the following day), the gas company's contractor AMERICAN PAVING indicated a willingness to complete the project through the entire length of Central Avenue (as desired by the Village) for a price

of \$40,000.00 (which our Village staff has indicated is substantially below the price that would likely flow from competitive bidding, and only possible because the gas company's contractor has its equipment already on site); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor thereupon declared an "emergency" with respect to the need to immediately complete the roadway project through the balance of Central Avenue at a price not to exceed \$40,000.00 and executed an agreement with AMERICAN PAVING to complete such work; now, therefore, it is

**RESOLVED**, that this Board hereby ratifies the Mayor's declaration of an "emergency" with respect to the need to complete the roadway project through the balance of Central Avenue at a price not to exceed \$40,000.00, and ratifies his action in executing an agreement with AMERICAN PAVING to that effect, a copy of which agreement is on file with the Village Clerk.

Mayor Edelman seconded the motion. All in favor.

#### Item 9 – Twin City Declaration with Kisvarda

Village Counsel Peter Bee acknowledged Mayor Edelman's desire to have this Board resolve its willingness to act as a twin city with the City of Kisvarda; and such a declaration is authorized by law. It does not make this Village responsible to do anything, or to refrain from doing anything, or to make any expenditure of money. It is an acknowledgement of a desire to reach out across the sea and open up a dialogue with the government and people of another location. Mayor Edelman explained the background of why he was approached to twin with Kisvarda, and that he thought it was an excellent idea.

**Board Action:** Trustee Kaufman moved to declare the Village of Lawrence as a twin city to Kisvarda. Trustee Diamond seconded the motion. Deputy Mayor Fragin inquired as to the financing, scope and rationale regarding the Kisvarda Museum, Synagogue and twinning with the Village. Mayor Edelman explained further and discussion ensued. All in favor.

## Item 10 - Approval to put out bid for grinder

**Board Action:** Trustee Goldstein moved to approve the Village Administration to go out to bid for a new "reel" grinder. Trustee Kaufman seconded the motion. All in favor.

#### Item 11 – Approve quotes for lift and cart and grinder

**Board Action:** Trustee Kaufman moved the approval of the following lowest responsible quotes/proposals to replace equipment/items lost in the LY&CC Golf Maintenance building fire (already reimbursed by insurance):

- 1) Hydraulic Lift (LY&CC Golf Course small vehicle hydraulic lift) Quote/Proposal by Finch at \$7,100.00
- Utility Cart (LY&CC Golf Course utility cart) Quote/Proposal by Finch at \$9,330.00
- 3) Blade Grinder/Sharpener (LY&CC Golf Course bottom blade/bedknife grinder) Quote/Proposal by Storr Tractor Company at \$15,595.00

Mayor Edelman seconded the motion. All in favor.

# Item 12 - Approve "No Parking" 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Andover Lane

**Board Action:** Mayor Edelman moved the Resolution to approve "No Parking" from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., on the west side of Andover Lane together with the traffic circle (at the end of the street) up to the driveway at Congregation Shaaray Tefila. Trustee Diamond seconded the motion. All in favor.

On motion by Trustee Kaufman, seconded by Mayor Edelman, and unanimously approved, the Board adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

This is to certify that I, Ronald Goldman, read the preceding minutes, and they are in all respects a full and correct record of such proceedings.

Ronald Goldman, Administrator,

Clerk/Treasurer

#### **EXHIBIT A**

# INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE TAX WARRANT TO RONALD GOLDMAN, VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

RECEIVER OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to receive and collect from the several persons named in the tax roll hereunto annexed, the several sums stated in the last column hereof opposite their respective names, being a total of \$2,610,118.43 for Taxes and \$1,294,377.00 for Sewer Rents.

YOU ARE FURTHER COMMANDED to receive and collect the first half of such sums without additional charge between the first day of June and the first day of July, 2019, both inclusive, and thereafter to collect with such of the sums as have not been theretofore collected, an additional charge of five percentum for the first month or fraction thereof and one percentum for each month or fraction thereof thereafter until paid.

YOU ARE FURTHER COMMANDED to receive and collect the second half of such sums without additional charge between the first day of December and the thirty first day of December, 2019, both inclusive, and thereafter to collect with such of the sums as have not been theretofore collected, an additional charge of five percentum for the first month or fraction thereof and one percentum for each month or fraction thereof thereafter until paid.

YOU ARE FURTHER COMMANDED to file tax roll and warrant in your office on or before the first day of February, 2020, and to deliver to the Board of Trustees at the same time an account of the taxes remaining due and unpaid, describing each parcel of real property upon which taxes are unpaid, showing the person or persons to whom the parcel is assessed and showing as to each parcel the amount of tax unpaid.

DATED MAY 1-19 MAYOR HULL Handle

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