

Board of Trustees  
Village of Tarrytown  
Regular Meeting No. 10  
One Depot Plaza  
Tarrytown NY 10591  
April 15, 2024  
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT in person: Mayor Brown presiding; Trustees: Hoyt, McGovern, Mitchell, Rinaldi and Phillips-Staley. Village Administrator Slingerland; Assistant Administrator Fasman; Village Treasurer Morales; Village Attorney Zalantis and Village Clerk Gilligan.

The meeting started with the Pledge to the Flag.

#### BOARD MISCELLANEOUS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Trustee Mitchell reported that on May 18<sup>th</sup> the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater will be hosting a hip hop workshop at Pierson Park from 3:00-4:30 pm. Last year's event was wonderful and he encourages everyone to attend.

Deputy Mayor McGovern reported that camp and pool registration is now open. You may register in person or online. Zumba will be starting again and in addition to our regular camps, we will be having after camps which will start after the regular camp session's ends. In addition, Farmers Kitchen will be starting up again on July 27<sup>th</sup>. More information about these programs as well as others can be found online on the village's website.

Trustee Hoyt reported that on April 5<sup>th</sup>, the Fire Department held their annual installation of their new officers. The new Fire Chief is Frank Morabito, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Fire Chief is Patrick Derivan, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chief is Ray Tuohy. Congratulations to the new chiefs and officers. Trustee Hoyt then thanked outgoing Chief Sean Sconga Jr. who did an outstanding job for the past three years. Sean has come from a long line of firefighters including his grandfather who was a former chief, his uncle Robert was a former chief, and his father Sean Sconga was a former chief. Great job Sean. He is very proud to know you and proud to be a part of your company at one time. Mayor Brown also thanked our Chiefs and all of our volunteer firefighters.

Trustee Kim reported that the Route 9 Safe Street Study is progressing forward, and another meeting will be taking place next Friday with representatives from each village attending. We are hoping the NYSDOT will give us an idea on what changes they are considering to improve safety on Route 9. The Village has also met with the Project Mover team who are spearheading the electrical bicycle share program which has already started in Ossining. We shared with them some issues we might have here in Tarrytown, and hope this program will be here sometime next year.

Trustee Phillips-Staley reported that TEAC is hosting many events this month as April is Earth Month. If you would like to participate in any environmental activities that they are doing please go to the TEAC website for more information on how to volunteer. TEAC is also accepting applications for the Community Garden located at the John Paulding School. If you like to garden but don't have the space, go to their website and you can get a plot for a small fee or on a sliding scale. Mayor Brown noted there is a website just for Earth Month called 10591.org with many Earth Month activities listed. She hopes to see everyone pitching in.

#### CHANGES AND/OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The presentation from Climate Action Plan presentation that was originally supposed to take place tonight is being rescheduled to the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator Slingerland reported that we are ready to adopt the village budget. He thanked the Mayor, Board and village staff for all of their hard work. Administrator Slingerland also noted that we are wrapping up the village audit as there was a lot of clean up that needed to be done especially because we switched auditing firms this past year. There is a resolution on the agenda that will be authorizing additional funds to the auditing firm.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ONLY ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA, OTHER THAN PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS. SPEAKERS SHALL HAVE THREE (3) MINUTES EACH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

There was no one online or in the room that wished to speak on agenda items.

BUDGET ADOPTION RESOLUTIONS FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

- A. Budget amendment resolution
  - B. Budget Adoption Resolution,
  - C. Tax Levy Rate Resolution,
  - D. Levy of Additional Taxes upon Termination of Exempt Status, and
- A. Tentative Budget Amendment resolution:

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Rinaldi and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following changes to the Village of Tarrytown Fiscal Year 6/1/2024-5/31/2025 appropriations, expenditures, revenues, and appropriations of fund balance(s), are enacted as follows:

Summary of Changes to 2024-2025 Tentative Budget (rvsd 4-10-2024)					
Changes in Appropriations					
Page #	Acct #	Detail	Proposed	Revised	Change
179	A.9912.900	Transfer to Library Fund	\$947,496	\$965,620	+\$18,125
				Total chgs	+\$18,125
Changes in Revenues					
67	L.2360	Intergovernmental Charge Sleepy Hollow	\$831,171	\$813,046	-\$18,125
67	L.2810	Inter Fund Revenues Tarrytown Appropriation	\$947,496	\$965,620	+\$18,125
82	A.1740.11	Train Station Parking	\$576,000	\$594,125	+\$18,125

Note: The above changes are necessary because of changes calculated in the Inter-municipal Agreement (IMA) between Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow for shared funding of the Library. The changes are due to the 2020 population count adjustments (Source – US Census 2020) which are Sleepy Hollow (9,986, or 45.711%) and Tarrytown (11,860, or 54.289%). There are no resultant changes in the tax rate.

BUDGET ADOPTION RESOLUTION

B. A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
COMMENCING JUNE 1, 2024 AND ENDING MAY 31, 2025

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Mitchell and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown held Public Hearings on the 2024-2025 Tentative Budget on March 18 and April 1, 2024, at 7 p.m. and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon; and

WHEREAS, during the budget process, at the April 10, 2024 Work Session, changes were made to the budget, which are reflected in the Tentative Budget Amendment Resolution, which was adopted at this meeting, prior to the adoption of the budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, as amended and set forth below, is hereby adopted and the Village Board of Trustees authorizes the appropriation of funding for the objects and purposes specified, including the amounts set forth required for the payment of principal and interest on indebtedness, in the following amounts:

ADOPTED BUDGET

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Water Fund</u>	<u>Library Fund</u>	<u>Sewer Fund</u>
Appropriations	\$40,486,362	\$31,413,856	\$6,838,185	\$1,987,567	\$246,754
LESS: Estimated Revenues	\$19,302,678	\$10,380,172	\$6,838,185	\$1,837,567	\$246,754
APPROP. CASH SURPLUS	\$1,145,000	\$995,000	- 0 -	\$150,000	- 0 -
TOTAL NON-PROPERTY TAX REVENUES & SURPLUS	\$20,447,678	\$11,375,172	\$6,838,185	\$1,987,567	\$246,754
BALANCE OF APPROPRIATIONS TO BE RAISED BY REAL	\$20,038,684	\$20,038,684			

ESTATE TAX LEVY					
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Total General Fund Appropriations: \$ 31,413,856  
Total Appropriations to be raised by Real Estate Tax Levy: \$ 20,038,684  
Taxable Assessed Value: \$ 2,557,341,733

Tax Rate per Thousand Dollars of Value (M) \$7.8357

C. FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 TAX LEVY AND WARRANT

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Rinaldi and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

WHEREAS, the budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024, has been duly adopted and filed with the Village Clerk, and it has been thereby determined that the sum of \$31,413,856 will be necessary to meet the obligations of the Village from the property tax levy, and there has been duly credited against said sum estimated revenues and appropriated fund balance that total \$11,375,172 leaving \$20,038,684 to be raised by the property tax levy; and

WHEREAS, it appears from the Assessment Roll established by the Greenburgh Assessor in 2023, updated in March, 2024 for taxes for the fiscal year June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025 that the total assessed valuation of real property in the Village is \$2,557,341,733.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the tax rate for the Village of Tarrytown for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024 is fixed at the rate of \$7.8357 on each \$1,000 of assessed valuation for properties in the Village of Tarrytown.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sum of \$20,038,684 shall be the taxes set for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024 and is hereby levied on the taxable property in the Village of Tarrytown and that the Village Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to extend and carry out upon the roll the amount to be collected from each of the persons named thereon, and the respective amounts of said tax roll against each parcel of taxable property set forth thereon are hereby levied upon each parcel of taxable property respectively which said levy includes items shown on the budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024.

D. LEVY OF ADDITIONAL TAXES UPON TERMINATION OF EXEMPT STATUS

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Rinaldi and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Assessor and Village Receiver of Taxes during the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2024 are authorized to levy and collect additional Village taxes upon termination of exempt status of real property in accordance with provisions of Section 494 of the Real Property Tax Law.

ARBOR DAY RESOLUTION

On a motion made by Trustee Phillips-Staley, seconded by Trustee Mitchell and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

WHEREAS, in 1872 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are renewable resources giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Tarrytown has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for 40 years and the Village desires to continue its tree-planting ways.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown does hereby proclaim Friday, April 26, 2024 as “ARBOR DAY” in the Village of Tarrytown, and urges all citizens to support efforts to care for trees and woodlands in the Village and to support the Village’s forestry program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees urges all citizens in the Village to plant trees to improve the community and to promote the well-being of present and future generations.

RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT WITH THE TARRYTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE PURCHASE OF GASOLINE

On a motion made by Trustee Hoyt, seconded by Trustee Kim and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown does hereby authorize and direct the Village Administrator to sign an inter-governmental cooperation agreement between the Village of Tarrytown and the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns for the

purchase of gasoline for school vehicles at the Village of Tarrytown's Department of Public Works facility.

RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT WITH THE TARRYTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR SANITATION SERVICES

On a motion made by Trustee Kim, seconded by Trustee Rinaldi and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown does hereby authorize and direct the Village Administrator to sign an inter-governmental cooperation agreement between the Village of Tarrytown and the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns for sanitation services provided to the schools.

RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE TARRYTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR PORTION OF VILLAGE DPW FACILITY

On a motion made by Trustee Mitchell, seconded by Trustee Hoyt and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown does hereby authorize and direct the Village Administrator to renew the lease agreement between the Village of Tarrytown and the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns to lease a portion of the Village DPW facility to be utilized by the school district for bus repair purposes.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE COMP ALLIANCE INSURANCE MEMBER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Mitchell and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown does hereby authorize and direct the Village Administrator to execute a two-year Member Participation agreement with the New York State Municipal Workers' Compensation Alliance covering Workers Compensation Insurance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the annual premium for the Worker's Compensation Coverage of all employees and volunteers will be \$574,399, or \$1,148,798 for two years from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2026.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH WESTCHESTER COUNTY FOR A NEW TRI-BAND VHF-UHF-700 MHZ ANTENNAE ARRAY TO REPLACE THE CURRENT SINGLE BAND VHF ANTENNA AT 1 DEPOT PLAZA

On a motion made by Trustee Rinaldi, seconded by Trustee Mitchell and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown hereby authorizes the Village Administrator to execute the first amendment to the License Agreement between the Village and Westchester County to provide to the Village of Tarrytown Police Department with a

new tri-band VHF-UHF-700 MHz antennae array to replace the current single band VHF antenna at 1 Depot Plaza.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE VILLAGE CODE FOR PARKING AND ALTERNATE SIDE PARKING ON BAYLIS COURT, TO SWITCH THE SIDES AS CURRENTLY POSTED

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Kim and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown hereby authorizes an amendment to the Village Code, Vehicle and Traffic section, under Chapter 291-80 – Parking Prohibited Certain Hours, Schedule XV, as follows:

Current Code language when parking is PROHIBITED except certain times:

Name of Street	Side	Hours/Days	Location
Baylis Court	East	Any time except 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m./Tuesday and Friday	Entire length
Baylis Court	West	8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m./Tuesday and Friday	Entire length

New Language (switching sides)

Name of Street	Side	Hours/Days	Location
Baylis Court	East	8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m./Tuesday and Friday	Entire length
Baylis Court	West	Any time except 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m./Tuesday and Friday	Entire length

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Clerk is authorized to send this Code change to the General Code Publishers, and the DPW and Police Departments are authorized to take the necessary and appropriate actions to implement this code change by switching the parking regulation signs on Baylis Court from the current sides to the opposite sides.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DESIGNATION OF A PARKING SPOT FOR THE SECOND ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF ON STORM STREET

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Kim and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that based on the request of the Village Administrator and the Police Chief, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown hereby authorizes the designation of a parking space for the Second Assistant Fire Chief Ray Tuohy on Storm Street, designating the space on Storm Street, South Side, from a point 30 feet west of North Washington Street westerly for a distance of 20 feet. The same restriction will be mirrored on the north side of the street during alternate parking days and times.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF TARRYTOWN AND PKF O’CONNOR DAVIES, FOR ADDITIONAL TIME

On a motion made by Trustee Rinaldi, seconded by Trustee Kim and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED, that due to additional time required to examine the accounts and records of the Village of Tarrytown and its various accounts and funds, the Board of Trustees authorizes an amendment of the first year of the contract award for auditing services with PKF O’Connor Davies, in an amount not to exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) and authorizes the Village Administrator and Village Treasurer to take the necessary and appropriate actions to sign and proceed with an amendment to the contract and authorize these services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorizes an increase in appropriations from General Fund Balance in the amount of \$30,000, and an increase in expenditures budgeted in A.1325.415 for Auditor in the amount of \$30,000.

YEAR-END JOURNAL ENTRY AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE VILLAGE’S AUDITORS (place holder)

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Kim and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

Resolution to Adjust FY 2022-2023 Budget to complete the Final Audit as follows:

Resolution to Adjust FY 2022-2023 Budget per the Final Audit as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown hereby authorizes the use of General Fund Balance in the total amount of \$1,419,139.87, applicable to the year-end clean-up of General Fund accounts for Fiscal Year 6/1/22 to 5/31/23 to offset the net effect of the over- and under- expended accounts in the General Fund; and

Increase Appropriation	Justice Court	A.1110.430	(26,964.73)
Increase Appropriation	Engineer	A.1440.250	(337.66)
Decrease Appropriation	Building	A.1620.450	10,359.00
Increase Appropriation	Judgement and Claims	A.1930.450	(2,000.00)
Increase Appropriation	Taxes & Assessments	A.1950.450	(17,982.41)
Decrease Appropriation	Police	A.3120.103	102,269.79
Increase Appropriation	Police	A.3120.103.1	(33,075.57)
Increase Appropriation	Fire Dept	A.3410.406.1	(1,492.57)
Increase Appropriation	Fire Dept	A.3410.407	(16,622.90)
Increase Appropriation	Fire Dept	A.3410.408	(332.62)
Increase Appropriation	Fire Dept	A.3410.409	(6,145.55)
Increase Appropriation	Fire Dept	A.3410.417	(5,770.43)
Increase Appropriation	Fire Dept	A.3410.202.23	(10,947.14)
Decrease Appropriation	Fire Dept	a.3410.407	46,232.62
Increase Appropriation	Safety Inspections	A.3620.250	(470.67)
Decrease Appropriation	Ambulance	A.4540.420	50,000.00
Decrease Appropriation	Street Maintenance	A.5110.407.2	5,460.00
Decrease Appropriation	Snow Removal	A.5142.103	2,500.00
Decrease Appropriation	Programs for Aging	A.6772.451	2,601.00
Increase Appropriation	Playgrounds & Rec	A.7140.420	(2,070.17)
Increase Appropriation	Playgrounds & Rec	A.7140.420.1	(5,130.00)



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Increase Appropriation	Playgrounds & Rec	A.7140.425	(7,379.94)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.250	(1,614.18)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.404	(775.09)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.405	(60.71)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.406	(4,038.65)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.406.1	(1,305.81)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.407	(3,662.00)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.409	(1,837.96)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.420	(20,973.29)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.425	(27,525.64)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.431	(140.93)
Increase Appropriation	Parks	A.7141.450	(141.52)
Increase Appropriation	Pool	A.7241.409	(62.35)
Increase Appropriation	Pool	A.7241.420	(317.98)
Increase Appropriation	Camp Fees	A.7242.150	(10.49)
Decrease Appropriation	Celebrations	A.7550.450	2.00
Decrease Appropriation	Shade Trees	A.8650.450	12.00
Increase Appropriation	State Retirement	A.9010.451	(22,976.00)
Increase Appropriation	Police & Fire Retirement	A.9010.452	(25,818.00)
Increase Appropriation	Medical Insurance	A.9080.600	(1,311.00)
Increase Appropriation	Serial Bonds	A.9710.600	(157,447.32)
Increase Appropriation	Capital Project Funds	A.9950.900	(1,231,835.00)
Increase Appropriation	Unrestricted Fund Balance	A.0909	1,419,139.87

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorize the Treasurer and the Village Administrator to take the necessary and appropriate actions to apply these account reconciliations, as part of the year-end closeout of the general fund for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS

On a motion made by Trustee Hoyt, seconded by Trustee Kim and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown does hereby declare as surplus the 1997 Seagrave Pumper (last four numbers of VIN are 2073), with a 1500 GPM Waterous Pump, 500-gallon tank, 6-man cab, and mileage of 33,312, the Board hereby authorizes the Village Administrator and Treasurer’s Office to take the necessary and appropriate actions to dispose of this vehicle by auction.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Kim with Trustee Hoyt abstaining, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 6-1-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown hereby approves the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting held on Monday, April 1. 2024 as submitted by the Village Clerk

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

On a motion made by Trustee Mitchell, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGovern with Trustee Hoyt abstaining, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 6-1-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown hereby approves the minutes of the Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting held on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 as submitted by the Village Clerk.

APPROVAL OF THE ACTION ITEM MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 WORK SESSION.

On a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGovern, seconded by Trustee Kim and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown hereby approves the Action Item minutes of the Board of Trustees Work Session held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, as submitted by the Village Clerk and the Village Administrator.

APPROVAL OF AUDITED VOUCHERS

On a motion made by Trustee Hoyt, seconded by Trustee Mitchell and unanimously carried, the following resolution was approved. Approved: 7-0

Roll Call: Trustee Hoyt; Yes, Trustee Kim; Yes, Trustee Mitchell; Yes, Trustee Rinaldi; Yes, Trustee Phillips- Staley; Yes, Deputy Mayor McGovern; Yes, Mayor Brown; Yes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tarrytown does hereby approve Abstract No.20 of Audited Vouchers in the total amount of \$976,776.39 as presented by the Village Treasurer, to be paid in the following amounts:

General	\$	738,583.36
Water	\$	47,577.38
Sewer Fund	\$	29,852.16
Capital	\$	83,359.03
Library	\$	36,215.79
Trust & Agency	\$	41,025.98
<u>CM (Special Fund)</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>162.69</u>
Total	\$	976,776.39

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ITEMS NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA. SPEAKERS HAVE THREE (3) MINUTES BEFORE YIELDING TO THE NEXT SPEAKER.

Mayor Brown asked people to please follow the guidelines for public comment. Guidelines for public comment provide the structure for the Board of Trustees to gather input from residents. This information is vital to addressing their concerns. These guidelines entail respecting the tree minute time limit for each speaker, addressing the entire Board collectively and refraining from

commenting or shouting from one's seat. Everyone must have an opportunity to speak while ensuring the meeting proceeds smoothly. Questions or comments raised during the meeting will be taken seriously and addressed either by phone, email or at the next meeting. We will make sure everyone's voice is heard and all concerns are properly handled. Comments that are attacking or intimidating and defaming others have no place here. Not only do they go against basic principals of decency and respect, they attack the right to dignity and reputations of members of our community. By upholding the high standards of discourse, we can address problems and concerns in a manner consistent with the values of diversity, respect and understanding that define Tarrytown.

David Kessler has lived across the street from Neperan Park for over thirty years, even before it was designated as a park. During that time, he has seen and participated in the community's sweetness that has evolved since the park's inception. He taught his daughter to ride a bike there, gone sledding played catch, had picnics in the park. He's frequently touched when he sees families with young children learning to walk, or people sitting having coffee or eating their lunch. The park has a particular serenity and community tenderness that makes it unique. This would be significantly impacted by the noise and chaotic energy of a dog park. He is not against the dog park, but he believes it would be a mistake to put it in the middle of this residential area. He thinks this park in particular is one of Tarrytown's community resources and it should be protected.

Jason Eaton noted that since the last time he spoke, the weather has improved, and he has had the opportunity to see the park come to life. He has friends who have expressed interest in a dog park and he is still fully in support of a dog park in Tarrytown. He has gone into this with an open mind and he really feels that Neperan Park would be greatly impacted if a dog park was put in there. The chaotic energy and noise of a dog park will cause his own dogs to bark and will be an annoyance to everyone. He does support a dog park in Tarrytown and he thinks there are several other locations that might be an option. Neperan park is lovely just the way it is.

April and Scott from 65 Hamilton Place feels that there is a lack of transparency with the dog park. April happened to see the online survey, but there is nothing around the park saying that this is even an idea. The park is very small and there is already an issue with dog poop in the park and area the neighborhood. She is concerned that if you bring in more people, there will be more dogs, more mess and more noise. Who is going to monitor the mess and noise? Scott thanked the Board for allowing the public to speak and having our voice heard. He echoes his wife's sentiments about the poop. There has been little investment in the park for people since at least 2010 and the park has not changed. The work surface is old, uneven and worn out and the fabric is showing through the stone dust. The kid's area hasn't changed since his son was seven and he's now in college. He applauds the folks in the community maintaining the park as well as the village, but the villages investment in the park has just been some chairs in approximately twenty years. He asks the Board to look at the area holistically and look at the broader focus of the total use of the area. Let's take care of the families first before we take care of the dogs.

Netta Maser spoke on behalf of a local volunteer organization called It Takes a Village 10591 who provide services to people 55 and over and live in 10591. She has worked with the volunteers and seniors and its wonderful. Ms. Maser is a service coordinator and she match people who needs rides with the drivers, Other services are provided as well. Our organizations 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be on May 19<sup>th</sup> at Kingsland Point Park and the Board as well as the staff are invited to attend. We would love to see you all there as we will be celebrating our volunteers and members. Trustee Phillips-Staley inquired what other services the organization provides. Ms. Maser replied that if you needed help with technical items or going up ladders, we will find someone to assist. People are still a little reluctant due to COVID, but we think more services will be available as time goes by.

Bob from 59 Hamilton thinks that putting a dog park in Neperan Park is a terrible idea. No one wants to live near there and listen to dogs barking and yelping all day long. The dog parks in Elmsford and Sleepy Hollow are in nonresidential areas. Can't you find a spot near the Tarrytown Lakes? A community garden instead of a dog park would be nice. He goes to the park for peace and quiet every day and a dog park will ruin the ambience of that park.

John Osterman from 15 Grove Street stated that there are too many problems and unresolved issues with putting a dog park at Neperan Park. He hopes there will be future opportunities to discuss them in the fullness that they deserve. A dog park at Neperan Park has problems one of them costing \$50,000 to fix which is the leveling of the proposed park. Additionally, there isn't natural drainage in that area, and there is a retention pond directly below it. After spending \$50,000 to level the park, then spending additional dollars for the exacerbated drainage problems and the higher maintenance costs due to the rain washing away the gravel surface, what will we end up with? Go to the Kingsland Point dog park that is dirt field. The go to Neperan Park and look at the brown field that is on part due to Con Edison parking their trucks there. Now imagine that brown field increased to five times the size for the dog park and surrounded by black fencing. Neperan Park is a beautiful tranquil urban oasis and the hillside is an integral part of what gives the lower portion its character. Please don't ruin it. There are stakeholders in the lower part of the park, volunteers such as the Little Gardens of Tarrytown celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, TEAC, the now defunct Friends of Neperan park would put effort into the area now that it's been cleared a little bit to make that portion of the park even more beautiful. Let the park be.

Audrey Thomas from Asbury Terrace thanked the Board for setting up a meeting between Mountco and the residents of Asbury Terrace. We need to continue to have additional meetings with Mountco until we come to an agreeable solution to the unrealistic rent percentage increase. We need to better understand the offer of 30 percent to all resident's gross income and the timeline in which it will be in place. She doesn't see this as an alternative for the remainder of the life of Asbury Terrace LLC. If and when the 30 percent deal expires what happens to the residents not on Section 8. Do we face what we are facing now which is an increase from 70 to 82 percent? Regardless of how long Mountco offers the 30 percent to all residents, they need to consider reducing the initial invasive increase in good faith. The residents will attend Village Board Meetings until this issue is resolved. We hear you say the Board has no power on this matter, however she personally voted for all of the Board members and the Board needs to continue to be the liaison. Prior to the purchase of this building, the building was tax exempt. Now its taxable and the village benefits from these taxes. No one has come back to the residents to let them know how the 30 percent works and what information we have to give. There is a covenant in the agreement from when the building was sold that states that market rate payers were not to be touched unless we vacate the apartment. Why isn't anyone making them honor that? Audrey also agrees with what everyone is saying about the dog park. Tarrytown Lakes would be the perfect place for the dogs because it's a beautiful area. Trustee Rinaldi asked if anyone has heard from Mountco and Ms. Thomas replied that no one has heard back from them. She feels they are trying to figure out what they are going to do and say. If you can't rent apartments it's a write off for them. That can only go on so long. This is their way of getting their income and if she was rich, she wants to live like everyone else with a backyard, and flowers and grill hotdogs. That's been her dream her whole life and it didn't happen for her. She's sure that everyone else from River plaza feels the same way. Keep in mind just because someone has a nice car doesn't mean you know how they got that car. Mayor Brown noted that when they left the meeting they left believing that the next step was for those people who wanted to were to contact Mountco, look at their situation and see what their rent would be. Assistant Administrator Fasman said that Mountco said they were still working on things and would get back to us in the near future. Ms. Thomas noted that no one will want to give out their information since we don't qualify for Section 8. When the government is subsidizing people, they have a right to look into your income. She's on Social Security and doesn't get it until the second week of the month. Rent is due the beginning of the month, cable and her medical. She has to keep that amount of money for the next month otherwise she'd be late on everything. Also, the tenants have no lease. Mayor Brown said that's crazy but she thinks one of their goals is to give everyone a lease. Assistant Administrator Fasman said that if the Village hears back from Mountco we will let the tenants know. Mayor Brown said the village will stay on top of this to make sure the tenants get the communications they were promised.

Robert Benevento advised the Board that the dog park survey that the Village mailed out stated that a dog park in Neperan park would require extensive improvements that would need to be made before it became viable as a dog park. In addition, you would have to follow the guidelines for an environmental impact study. If you are thinking of moving forward with this, a lot needs to precede the decision to do so with one of the items required by New York State which is the Environmental Quality Review Act. Also, in the Village Code there are noise ordinances.

Section 215-7 of the Village Code states that the owner of any animal which barks, whines, howls or makes any other noise continuously for a period of ten or more minutes at a volume which can be heard anywhere beyond the owner's premises shall be guilty of violating that chapter. If you have a dog park at Neperan Park, the noise would be equal to a playground and you'll be hearing the dogs instead of children. What would be the Villages response? How many summonses have been issued for dogs that have been off leash at Neperan park? How could you enforce the noise ordinance and who would be there to enforce the noise ordinance? Mr. Benevento asked the Board to think about these points before making a final decision.

David Cova first wished to thank the Board for putting the meeting together with Mountco. Is it possible the Board could speak with Mountco this week and let us know the results so that the lines of communication stay open? Mayor Brown replied that we will email them first thing tomorrow and see what response we get.

Sylvia Rolinski from 44 Hamilton Place who is a lifelong resident of Tarrytown stated that her property abuts directly to Neperan Park, and has had dogs and other animals for over 35 years. She could be in favor of a dog park, in the right place. She does not think Neperan Park is the right place and not because her property abuts it, but because of the significances of the many issues that have been raised. The traffic issue as well as the excrement issue which will invariably flow from upper to lower will impact the use and enjoyment that people currently have in Neperan Park. Perhaps a flat venue at the Tarrytown Lakes or some other place with accessible parking is a better option. There parking and logistic issues on Neperan Road, and she doesn't think the location is consistent with what the people of Tarrytown who worked so hard on this park would want. Ms. Rolinski also concurs with the commentary in regards to the budget associated with it because there are improvements that could be made that would improve its current use. Her son grew up playing in the park, and she has many fond memories. A dog park would detract significantly from its intended use in an urban environment for such a lovely spot.

Mayor Brown thanked everyone for coming out and for their comments on the dog park. The survey was put out there so we could see how people felt about it and we are hearing your responses. We had heard from the people who wanted the dog park and that is how the idea came about. Now we are hearing that people have concerns and we appreciate it. We are not close to having any plans for the dog park, and the cost is also a concern to some of the Trustees and herself. As we move forward, whether a decision is made to investigate it further or drop it, we will let everyone know when the decision has been made. As for Asbury Terrace, Mayor Brown wants to make sure everyone is aware of the various resources that are available on the village website. The Board of Trustees will advocate for you in ways that is appropriate for a government to do. She encourages the Asbury Terrace residents to take some time to call the organizations listed on the website. The more people you have behind you the better chances you have for success. The Village received an email from Assemblywoman Mary Jane Shimsky's office that read: the first step for any tenant that is concerned about rent increases is for the tenant to contact the Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. The contact information is on our website. Each unit's permissible increase is dependent upon a number of factors so the Attorney General's Office cannot determine what is permissible. If legal services cannot help, Assemblywoman Shimsky's office can reach out, but the tenant will have to provide rent and income history. Mayor Brown noted that the Village is continuing to work with other offices, including the Office of Housing Council and Westchester County and we are hoping to find out if there are more options available.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm on a motion by Trustee Hoyt, and seconded by Trustee Mitchell with all voting aye.

Approved: 7-0

Kristine Gilligan  
Village Clerk

## Board of Trustees April 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes