



INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF OCEAN BEACH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach, Suffolk County, New York held on April 29, 2023 at the Boat House, 625-632 Bayberry Walk, Ocean Beach, New York and is also being conducted via Zoom.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Mallott moved to go into Executive Session at 8:57 AM from the Village Office, for the purpose of discussing personnel, contracts and pending litigation.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Blake upon call the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

No motions or resolutions were acted upon in Executive Session. Executive Session was closed at 11:08AM by Mayor Mallott. The motion was seconded by Trustee Arment, upon call the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

GENERAL SESSION: At 11:26 AM, Mayor Mallott moved to open General Session. Trustee Norris seconded this motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

Following the pledge to the Flag and Roll Call at 11:27 AM:

There were present:	Mayor:	James S. Mallott
	Trustees:	Matthew M. Blake
		Dawn L. Hargraves
		Christopher F. Norris
		Marco Arment
	Village Counsel:	Kenneth Gray
	Village Administrator:	Joseph DiFrancisco

Mayor Mallott: One of our good friends Charles Hynes passed away, please keep him and his family in your prayers.

Mayor Mallott: Thank you. Could we just change the agenda, the format a little bit here? Um, I'd like to get a police report from George Hesse. He and Ian are the process of drill for an active shooter. So, I'd like to get them over and done so they can get back to the drill. Chief, would you like to address the board, please?

OCEAN BEACH POLICE REPORT: Chief Hesse spoke

Yes. So, today we're working on an active shooter drill at school, using the school as a basis of our of our drill. We probably have, what, 60 representatives from all over the county here today. So, we'd like to try to get back to that as soon as we can. I just finished talking about my part of our involvement of what we would do if something happened at school. And I just want to get back for the follow up. Um, ready to go? Season's kicking off. People are coming out. Um, we had

a graduate from the Suffolk County Police Academy yesterday. My daughter, she graduated as of yesterday. Mayor; Congratulations. Chief Hesse: She did a great job. Um, I'm proud of her. She's actually working her first shift today, which is great. So that being said, next week I got the entire staff coming out, prepping them for the season. Any new trainings, any new bulletins, any new changes, law changes, whatever. I'm going to brief them on everything. Tell them what's expected of them going into the season and we're ready to go this weekend. Some of the bars and restaurants have opened up. I started doubling up on the shifts. So, you're going to start seeing more police officers out there doing what they do and we're ready to go. Um, I know there's a discussion with this code enforcement that you guys want to do.

So, you know, in my head, I have a version of what I thought a code enforcement officer was. There might be some misconceptions of what we really want them to do and how to do what it is that they do. I'd like to maybe talk to the group offline a little bit more about this. Um, because, you know, there's buildings and code issues, there's every day violation issues. So that will really determine the level of the officer that you need here. Like we have somebody that put himself through school or is going through a code enforcement school that is a full blown building inspector, fire marshal type thing that could help with buildings and codes like do inspections on bars, restaurants, homes, building plans and code and that kind of stuff, and write tickets for those sorts of things. Then you have a village code enforcement officer of sorts that's sort of like a young version of me maybe going out there and just enforcing certain village code violations that they are trained to do. And that can only that might only require like a two week class. So, we really have to talk about exactly what it is that we're looking to do and whatever program you're looking to implement and then figure out how it would work for us.

Trustee Norris: So from my perspective, thank you. Yeah. You know, the conversation that we've been having and had pretty deeply at the last meeting is for you to establish, for lack of a better term, a code enforcement task force, Right. An organization that has very specific emphasis for certain quality of life issues. Building codes. So we appreciate that, that you want to really put it together in a strategic way to identify some of the elements that we have to emphasize. So I look forward to that conversation.

Chief Hesse: So, here's what here's one of the options that we can do. Um, we have our police officers here. Their job is code enforcement. So, what we can do is we could sit down and focus on the certain issues that the community wants done. Exactly. And how they want it done. I'll explain to you how I believe and perceive how the law works and why it doesn't work or whatever. And we'll come up with a plan and we'll get these guys out there working because I think we're at that point already that the season is starting to kick off and we really need to knuckle down and get this job done. And I'll tell you the truth, we got people in place and I think they could do the job that you want. And how you want it done.

Trustee Norris: Let's have this conversation. **Chief Hesse:** That's what I'm saying. Let's maybe talk off line a little bit this way. We're not dragging this out and we'll get this job done. **Trustee Norris:** We appreciate you.

Trustee Blake: I would just state that within the budget. You can see it. The numbers around fines went up pretty significantly. I know there have been increased efforts to.

Chief Hesse: So, you know, kind of you kind of got to look at the year. So last year it was pretty much the coming out of COVID. There was some things going on. I had a big class going of of nine recruits. I wound up pulling an extra couple of guys out of that. We hired 12 new candidates last year, so it was a lot of training involved and a lot of getting used to. And you know, you look at that village code book, it's this thing, it takes time to develop. So those officers are pretty much falling into place and getting to where they need to be. So this year, when I turn them out, I'm turning them loose. So that's what we're going to do.

Trustee Arment: I think what we what we want to be different this time, if possible, is that we want there to be concrete. Like, here's an assignment for you for this shift. This is your job. Because, you know, look, we know that a lot of things fall to the police and you have a lot on your plate and think what can tend to happen is stuff that's considered lower priority or non-urgent not needed right this second. **Chief Hesse:** Absolutely. It happens. **Trustee Arment:** Then you get reassigned. You need downtown or whatever the case may be. **Chief Hesse:** Right at any given moment, anything can happen. **Trustee Arment:** Right. And so I think what I want to see ideally is if this is going to be a role that police officers are going to take on, instead of having a dedicated staffer, then I want there to be like assigned roles of like, okay, your assignment today and your assignment may be every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, whatever, whatever it is, have it be a fixed schedule that that has guaranteed hours for the officers assigned to this task. That way it isn't just a when we get to it kind of thing, right?

Chief Hesse: Yeah. We'll come up with a plan, we'll talk offline and we'll hash this out and we'll get it going. Trustee Arment; Sounds good. Thanks. **Trustee Norris:** Okay. You got to get back to your drill. **Chief Hesse:** Yeah, I'm going to wait for my cohort over here. **Maria Silsdorf: (inaudible)** Or should I hold that for now or you want to, because that's a public hearing on the public. **Chief Hesse:** I'm not sure. **Ken Gray:** I recommend you wait for the public hearing for the budget. **Maria Silsdorf:** Ok, I just don't want to be told at that point that George isn't here. So give me the answer. **Chief Hesse:** Well, I'm sure the board can answer any monetary questions that you have.

OCEAN BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Levine spoke

Thank you, guys. Um, the fire department we are starting our gearing up process. Next week will be our first big meeting of the season. Um, we will do our physicals and all that stuff next week. On Sunday is our monthly meeting and at that meeting, I'd like to invite the other four candidates that are up for Trustee to come and address the membership of the fire department. We do that traditionally the Sunday before the election. We'll have a meeting. So please come at 10:00 am. If you'd like to speak to the membership, we'll give you 2 or 3 minutes each to state your case. And that will happen on that Sunday. Um, our July 4th meeting will be a big meeting for the Ocean Beach Fire Department as we'll be electing a new chief for the fire department. We'll have there's probably about 5 or 6 people that are eligible for the job. So, we'll see how that goes and we'll advise you guys what are the department's decision is after that meeting, Other than that, we are gearing up. We're working on our new truck. We have so far 2 or 3 different renderings of trucks that are available to us. We've met with the mayor about it and Matt knows all about it as our liaison to the department. So, we are moving forward, gearing up with the gear, everything's getting serviced, our trucks and everything. So, we are looking good. Mayor: Thank you, Chief. No questions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD ON APRIL 1, 2023: Resolution No. 2023-049: Mayor Mallott moved follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting held on April 1, 2023 are accepted as presented.

Trustee Blake seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIM VOUCHERS: Resolution No. 2023-050: Mayor Mallott moved as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that bills and claim vouchers, already paid be approved as submitted and as follows:

General Fund, in the amount of \$178,912.31, for Gross Payroll from 03/22/23 through 04/18/23

BE IT RESOLVED that bills and claim vouchers to be paid, are submitted to be approved for payment as follows:

General Fund, in the amount of	\$ 436,111.76, starting with check number A27747, and
Water Fund, in the amount of	\$ 39,532.86, starting with check number F3760, and
Sewer Fund, in the amount of	\$ 21,102.93, starting with check number G6766, and
Sewer Capital Fund, in the amount of	\$ 246.91, starting with check number 1223, and
Waterwell Safehouse Fund, in the amount of	\$ 317.95, starting with check number 1091

Trustee Blake seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

MAYOR'S & SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mayor Mallott spoke, Kevin and I have a joint report.

Wastewater: Sewer plant is fully operational.
Emergency Systems and Generator systems tested & operational.
Inspected by the Suffolk County Health Dept and passed.

Water: Wells #2, #3 & #4 are operational
All Emergency Systems and Generator system operational
Chemical supplies & Fuel supplies full

Properties: Senior Cart put at the Police Station
All Golf Carts tuned up & operational
Raked & cleaned the playground
Village Green renovation – replaced retaining wall wood as needed

Mayor Mallott: Uh, the village green renovations. Our staff, Kevin and his blue collar guys, along with Jen Morano and Vinny Fazio, have done extraordinary work on the village green, which will continue. Um, while the money's there. So it looks very good. And then next gen, the next phase is flowers.

Jen Moritz: The flowers will be planted in this when it gets warmer. We have a phase two with the bushes and the trees, which I've heard that a little late in the day. But we can be passed on to the next meeting and we'll have more from the board to approve. **Mayor Mallott:** So you want us to agree on a plan that you have? **Jen Moritz:** So if can you pass now or at the next meeting? **Trustee Arment:** If we pass the next meeting, are we missing, like, important planting seasons or growing seasons for some of these trees? **Trustee Norris:** All right. So let's let's. **Mayor Mallott:** Well, why don't you email it? **Trustee Norris:** We have it in front of us. **Mayor Mallott:** We have it here. **Ken Gray:** Yeah. Yeah. **Trustee Norris:** I would appreciate A little bit more time? Next time. **Jen Moritz:** Sorry. **Trustee Norris:** I am fine with this proposal. This proposal? **Trustee Arment:** As am I. **Mayor Mallott:** Me too. **Marco Arment:** You want to do it now? **Maria Silsdorf:** Is, this is an agenda item? **Trustee Arment:** I think we need to add it. **Ken Gray:** It can be an add on. **Mayor Mallott:** Okay, let's wait till we get to it then, Kenny. Yeah. Now we'll do it on item number nine to add that.

Properties: Windswept alarm system tested & operational
Water turned on to shack at Windswept
Boat ramp to be installed by May 10th
One street light painted, repaired & installed
Water bottle filler activated at Cottage & Ocean View
Community House prepped for summer use
Ballfield & Green sprinkler systems activated
Marina opened as of April 15th
Garbage pickup is Sunday & Wednesday nights

Streets: Sand removal around village has begun

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Joe DiFrancisco spoke

I have nothing new to report but I just want to take a moment to, uh to recognize Linda sitting next to me here for her work on the budget. Linda's first year as the as the village treasurer. She was appointed six months ago. Uh, and it was her. First time doing the village budget. She was. **Mayor Mallott:** And yours. **Joe DiFrancisco:** And mine. But Linda did the work. And, you know, she was essentially working without a net. And I just want to recognize her efforts. I think she did a great job. **Mayor Mallott:** Yes, very good Linda. We'll see if it passes. And then we'll. We'll save our cheers for that.

OCEAN BEACH LIFEGUARD REPORT: Chief Weinstein spoke via Zoom

Okay, great. Um, not too many updates. Uh, we had Mark DeAngelis and the ski over to freight this morning. I know Kevin and his guys are going to move that into the garage for safekeeping until they can transport it to the lifeguard shack for us. We have all the new radios at the village helped us order. They're being programmed right now. We're going to pick those up in a week or two. We were able to order all the equipment we needed and uniforms for this season, and we have about 10 to 11 hirer prospects for this summer. So we're in good shape right now. **Trustee Norris:** All right. Thank you, Jill. **Mayor Mallott:** Thank you, Jill.

Ken Gray: We're going to jump to number 13 in the matter of amending the service award program for active volunteer fire members of the Ocean Beach Fire Volunteer Fire Department.

ACCEPT & APPROVE LOSAP AMENDED PLAN: Resolution No. 2023-051: Mayor Mallott moved as follows:
In the matter of amending the Service Award Program for active volunteer firefighter members of the Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Department

WHEREAS; voters of the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach approved a referendum to establish a Service Award Program for active volunteer firefighter members of the Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Department effective January 1, 1999 in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law; and,

WHEREAS; The Village Board of Trustees may, in certain circumstances, authorize the amendment of the Service Award Program by the adoption of a resolution; and,

WHEREAS; the intent of the Service Award Program is to assist the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach and Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Department to recruit, retain and reward active volunteer firefighter service; and,

WHEREAS; under the current program provisions, when an active volunteer firefighter resigns or is dismissed from the fire company, if such former firefighter is not a vested program participant, the former firefighter's Accrued Service Award and Service Credit are totally and permanently forfeited;

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED, That:

The Village Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach amends the Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Department Service Award Program effective June 1, 2022, to state that a non-vested participant who ceases to be an eligible volunteer firefighter (either resigns as an active member of the Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Department or is dismissed by the Fire Department for any reason) will have their participation cease as of the next following May 31st and will therefore forfeit their Accrued Service Award and Service Credit earned as of that May 31st. However, if such former non-vested participant (only participants that resign as an active member in good standing of the Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Department) again becomes an eligible volunteer firefighter and subsequently earns at least one (1) year of Service Credit, the non-vested participant's forfeited Service Credit and Accrued Service Award shall be restored effective as of the May 31st Program Year the Service Credit is earned. No Service Credit or Accrued Service Award shall be restored for any non-vested participant that is dismissed by the Fire Department for any reason.

All other provisions of the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach Service Award Program shall not change, and the program shall continue to be administered by the Village Board of Trustees in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law as such law is amended from time to time.

Trustee Blake seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

Ken Gray: So what that means everybody. You have a firefighter. He's been here three years, let's say, and each year he's earned credit in the low SAP program, which is the length of service award program. You have to be here five years for it to be vested. Um, but for some reason they move. So, they resigned from the fire department and three years later they come back. They left in good standing if they rejoined the fire department. And they're in good standing for one year. Then the three year credit that they had previously lost because of their resignation will be credited back to them. So it's we're trying to encourage, if anybody had to leave the service for any reason, if they had to move or if they had a change in circumstances of their family, we want to encourage them that when they get back into a place where they're able to volunteer, that we will accept them with open arms and with the credit that they had previously served in the department.

Maria Silsdorf: Is it just joining the Ocean Beach Fire Department rejoining or any volunteer fire department? **Ken Gray:** This is just Ocean Beach.

Trustee Blake: I think just to add a little bit more texture to this. So, you know, as a department, we're always extremely focused on retention and recruitment. We're specifically looking for younger people, like we need that. And so oftentimes what we've seen are situations where a youngster joins and then decides, for instance, to go back to grad school in a

relatively short period of time after having joined. And we don't really have a mechanism to try to accommodate that type of setup. And that felt, you know, like something that we should change. And so that's the essence of what we're trying to do here. It's really in the first few years of being a member, really the first year to the beginning of the fifth year that this really applies. And again, it's only applicable to fire department members who are in good standing. So, they've met all the training requirements, the drills, their, you know, their disciplinary records are strong and in good shape. And so that's really the type of folks that we want to do everything that we possibly can to hold onto. Adam I'm not sure if you wanted to come up and say anything else or if you feel like we've addressed it sufficiently, it's up to you unless there are specific questions. Okay. Gotcha. Um.

Trustee Blake: And thank you board for the support on this. **Adam Shapiro:** One behalf of the fire department. Thank you. To the village office Bunny and Linda, like everyone to know how hard they work on it. And Ken as well. We really appreciate all the efforts that make my job shuffling this paper a lot easier. So thank you. Before thank you to the.

Trustee Blake: Board before you move. Our thanks to you because you there's actually a lot of administrative effort that goes into running this plan. You've always been amazing at that, Adam. And I know you take that on like always in the best spirit. So thank you. **Adam Shapiro:** Happy to help and I appreciate your time today. Thank you all.

BUDGET HEARING #1

OPEN TIME: 11:49 AM – Mayor/Blake

CLOSING TIME: 12:27 PM – Mayor/Hargraves

Public Hearing Notes:

Any comments from the board, I guess. **Trustee Blake:** Well, maybe we want to talk quickly about a couple of pieces that are not in the current document, but that will be in the. **Mayor Mallott:** Added to the final document. **Trustee Blake:** Dawn, you want to talk about rec? **Trustee Hargraves:** No. You know, I'll defer to you. **Trustee Blake:** Okay. Does anybody want to talk? I'm happy to tee it up. So, I think there's a there's a really strong sentiment on the board that we support and invest in recreational activities here in the village. That's true for young people. That's true for all of us. Right. It cuts across generations there. And so we've been kicking back and forth some numbers on how to do that. We all view this as iterative over time. It's going to change and hopefully continue to expand and grow in the right way. So we are increasing that budget line item on the rec side to \$50,000. I think in the current version it's a \$20k, so an additional \$30k which we hope will continue to bolster some of the great activities that we saw come to life last year. And again, that's a commitment from my side and I think it's a shared one among the board to really support those activities. Anything else to add in there, Chris or Marco? **Trustee Norris:** It's a it's a good program. We want to support it any way we can. So I'm happy we came to terms to raise that value from the initially suggested \$20,000.

Maria Silsdorf: Can I ask a question on the rec program? I, of course, 150% support the REC program, but I do have a question about the numbers. So, do we have a sense and I'm sure Patty Patty does, of the participation from our neighboring communities and have we asked them to financially contribute as well?

Trustee Hargraves: I'll speak to that. As far as I know, there's been no request made from for any contributions from outside of Ocean Beach. It is generally because it's run here. And I do just want to make clear for the record that my, I don't want to say my refusal, but me not answering the question about the wreck has nothing to do with my support, which is 1,000%, no doubt. I just don't think we should have to fight so hard to get the money for the rec program.

Maria Silsdorf: Appreciate that. But so we have neighboring communities that have deep pockets, I'm sure. We have a certain percentage of children from those communities that go to big and they pay slightly more than an Ocean Beach resident, which I feel is entirely appropriate. They participate fully and freely in the REC program that my tax dollars are now paying for, which I have no objection to. But I think that we should not leave potential contributions from our neighboring communities aside. And I think that we, Ocean Beach should formally reach out to Tom Ruskin and Don Sussman and whoever runs our neighboring communities that we get nothing from and ask for them to contribute to the REC program so that their members, their residents, can continue to freely participate. I don't want a kibosh their participation, but fork up some dough, people.

Mayor Mallott: Thank you. As you can see, my original number in my budget for that line item was \$20,000. Okay. Last year we gave them \$30,000. This year, the board has convinced me to adjust my budget to another. What are we giving

them? \$50,000. Okay. We're giving them that \$50,000 on a condition that we have which we don't have is a contract. Okay. So there has to be some kind of paperwork to follow this trail. Okay. **Maria Silsdorf:** And I just want to say my comment didn't was not that I don't support the \$50k. I'm fine with that. Okay. But the more the better. Let's get some gravy.

Mayor Mallott: Okay? Yes, please. Come on, Gail. **Gail Stamler:** I just want to. **Trustee Blake:** Come up to the mic. Otherwise, people, people online can't hear you. **Trustee Norris:** You got thousands of people on Zoom that want to hear you. **Gail Stamler:** Thank you. Good morning. I don't usually make it to these meetings, especially on a day like today. But anyway, I just wanted to let you know that not only are you contributing to the REC program, but the Ocean Beach Community Fund is also giving a substantial amount to the REC program. They have requested a grant and we have granted it and it's quite a large sum and we are still further looking to donate more. Last year we donated, I don't know, over \$20,000 to the grant to the REC fund. And this year I think we're donating \$36,000 to the REC. So, we have been working towards helping shore up what the Ocean Beach does not give to the REC program. The community fund is giving the rest. So, I just wanted you to know that I didn't know if you knew that or not. **Mayor Mallott:** We didn't.

Trustee Arment: David Lipsky, you have a hand up in the chat? **David Lipsky:** Yes, I did. I support what Maria had just said about our neighbors. But think in lieu of necessarily trying to get money from them, we should be thinking about some sort of inter-community agreement to allow some of our residents to use their facilities, which in many cases is better than what's in Ocean Beach, specifically the water front, where they have a Bay Beach that's very expensive, even allowable for out of Seaview residents to use. Um, and it's a much better beach than in Ocean Beach. And now that people are riding their bicycles all season long, easy to get to. So. Maybe we can reserve some time in the day where Ocean Beach residents and their children can utilize their facilities. **Trustee Norris:** Thank you. It's a very good point.

Trustee Hargraves: But maybe now that we have the REC program that gives us the ability to now barter and barter back and forth, which we didn't have before. So think it's changed the landscape?

Trustee Blake: Yeah, I think there's an opportunity to just in terms of different money coming into the program for us to sit down and think collectively, you know, about how we the types of programs that we want to support. I think we've been experimenting, which is exactly what you want to do at the outset. And we've seen traction on some things and less traction on others. So, I think that's an opportunity for the community actually to put some heads together and we can think through like David's point and Maria's point too, in that context. **Maria Silsdorf:** the OBA Also contributes. So it would also be just it would be good to know all of the various contributions. **Trustee Blake:** Yeah. Agreed.

Mayor Mallott: More questions on the budget. Marco You got one there, Bob?

Maria Silsdorf: Matt, I thought you had a list of things you wanted to mention. **Trustee Blake:** We did. I thought we had responded and put that back. Did we not post that on the, uh, on the website? Okay, so then we should pull that and go through those questions. We did. We have responses. **Linda Morrissey:** You mean Marie's questions? I didn't post that **Maria Silsdorf:** I have the questions. But when you said I think there are a couple of things we want to comment on. **Trustee Blake:** Oh, if there are additional pieces. Yeah, there anything. **Speaker12:** Well.

Trustee Norris: You're standing up there why do you ask since we're taking comments. **Bob Stack:** This is for comments about the entire budget? What is the average increase in assessed value last year to this year? **Mayor Mallott:** Uh, the assessed value. Linda is on a sheet there. It's been going up. **Linda Morrissey:** Increase to decrease. I have to think what it is. I'd have to get back. I don't have what last year's was. Currently, it's \$38,000,803 in the assessed value is the assessed value. So I'd have to look at what I have for last year. I don't have so I don't have the average. **Bob Stack:** There's a number larger. **Linda Morrissey:** I believe so, You mean our assessed value? Yes. The number is low. **Bob Stack:** Why is with the increasing ratables? It's probably significant. Our tax rate going up. **Linda Morrissey:** Because your tax rate has to is going to be covering expenses that are also going up. **Bob Stack:** I realize that. But people should be paying more taxes. Although all these new homes that people put in and all the improvements to existing homes, the average assessed valuation should have gone up.

Mayor Mallott: It does Go up. They reassessed every time the work is complete. They reassessed by the town of Islip.

Bob Stack: But with an increased increase, total assessment. Why isn't the why is the tax rate going up? Because you take the to your tax rate goes up and your assessed value goes up. You're collecting quite a bit more. Yeah. So I'm saying, why is there a tax increase? **Trustee Arment:** By the way? It's about 1% is the rate you're asking about. It's about 1% for the assessed value between last year and this year. **Bob Stack:** It's got to be more than 1%. This for every new house that's been built increases the ratables. **Trustee Blake:** This number is slow to adjust. I find it's not it's not as it's not as dynamic as one would think. I hear your point. I mean, our approach. **Mayor Mallott:** because it's Such a large number. Okay. The small the increases in the assessed value are much smaller than that larger number.

Trustee Blake: The so what we've tried to do on the tax side, it's interesting. When I was initially elected, like many, many moons ago, now I look back over time and I look specifically at the volatility of this tax number. And we had some years where it was like double digits and then it was negative. Like it just made no sense. And so what we've tried to do here and we've been consistent, if you look back really since Hurricane Sandy, we were in New York City at that point in time and we said, look, we're all going to bear the burden of the rebuild right. And we had a very high couple of years. And then we that slope started to go down and down and down. So, we've kept it in and around 2%, slightly less over the last few years to. **Bob Stack:** 2% is a reasonable increase. But my thought would be with all the new ratables, which are several million dollar homes. Yeah. And you know, we have five houses that we can touch and they all have swimming pools now. Right? have a swimming pool too, but we expect it. **Trustee Blake:** I think part of the answer to your question is that our ability you know, again, we're in an environment where we're inflation has been quite, quite difficult to contend with. Right. Part of the reason why we're able only to increase 2% in this context is because that assessed value is creeping up and it's doing what you're implying, which is we're able to draw more money from those improved properties as we were in the past. And that's actually helping us keep the tax rate low along with other things within this budget, such as revenue outside of your tax. **Bob Stack:** So you're expecting an Adjustment again next year. **Mayor Mallott:** Yeah, ongoing. You know, houses that are not finished now will be added to the assessment next year. **Trustee Blake:** Yeah, but the behavior of that number just mean if you were to look back it is not a number that bounces all over the place. It's very kind of incremental. **Bob Stack:** Okay. Thank you. Yep. Thank you.

Trustee Norris: All right. Just going back to some of the things and I just want to. Preempt. One of the questions I'm sure is going to be coming. You will see an increase in the mayor's salary in the budget, which is tied to an increase in the value of the medical offerings that the village offers, the trustees and the mayor. You might recall some meetings back. The trustees agreed to freeze whatever increase there is on their value of the if they don't take the health insurance. The mayor's adjustment right now is tied to that increase in the value of medical coverage, which he does not take. Upon commitment from this board to review that policy to cap the value of the medical insurance. If you do not use the medical insurance. The commitment of this board, which has allowed me to support the overall budget, will be capped at the current value, which is \$16,000. **Mayor Mallott:** for all trustees for everybody on this board. **Trustee Norris:** For an individual. So moving forward, any increases in the value of the for lack of a better term, compensation if you don't take the medical will not be linked to increases in medical coverage year over year. So just want to make that statement as it relates to compensation. **Mayor Mallott:** There's going to be a flat rate for medical compensation whether you choose to take it or whether you choose to, don't. If you take the medical itself, the individual trustee will pay for the increase Okay. **Maria Silsdorf:** What about the other \$68,000 or so? **Trustee Norris:** Correct? **Trustee Arment:** It's a different it's a full time. **Maria Silsdorf:** But yeah, you just said you want to address the mayor's salary. **Trustee Norris:** Yeah, the increase mechanism, trying to address the increase is the mechanism tied to the to the health insurance.

Trustee Blake: I think just as a general statement, um, you know, as a function of the audit, we've spent a tremendous amount of time reviewing and this, you know, we should have done earlier. We spent a tremendous amount of time reviewing the handbook, amending the handbook, and now it's the difficult task of aligning things that were done in a certain way to a new paradigm. And, you know, and we're all we're all sort of contending with that as we speak. But I just want to say, like as a board, we are extremely focused on that and we are making every effort so that when you look at these elements on compensation, it is understandable and clean. And I think that is just a fundamental step that we need to make. **Trustee Norris:** And are taking. **Linda Stertz:** Just to be clear, when a trustee does not take the health benefit. the health benefit, are you then reimbursed or are you given that value as salary? **Trustee Blake:** Yes. That comes to you as cash. **Trustee Norris:** And that's that \$16,000 value that I'm speaking.

Maria Silsdorf: So, this is Maria Silsdorf, president of the Ocean Beach Association. I did take the opportunity to submit six questions based on the budget that was no longer a wishlist, but was a draft budget or I guess a final budget. Not sure what we're calling the budgets these days, but I wanted to read them into the record. So, A2410 rental property. The

budget has gone up \$74k has gone up I'm sorry, gone down. The revenue has been reduced by \$74,000 or 8%. When asked the question why? the response was based off of current year to date actual in addition to many new homeowners, the expectation is that they will be using the residence and not renting. From your lips to God's ears I guess. I would be hard pressed to believe that we'll be having 8% fewer rentals in the village this season. But that's your response? That's your response.

Trustee Norris: I'm sorry. Let's just. Yeah, So that's a forecasted revenue. Correct? And I agree with you. Yeah. I feel just anecdotally that there will be plenty of rentals. Yeah. Having said that, we have structures in place for the permitting of short term rentals and long term rentals. This is a projection if we get the volume that perhaps some of us expect, we're going to accept that additional fees, right? So, we're apparently taking a very conservative view on expected revenue.

Mayor Mallott; In that department, **Trustee Norris;** that expectation is supersede. Superseded, although I would like to see less rentals in this village. Yes, I will gladly take those fees.

Maria Silsdorf: Well, but so had we plan the revenue at a slightly less conservative, more historical level, we could have depleted the appropriations fund less. Right. Which is just to fund a paper mechanism for balancing the budget.

Linda Morrisey: I'd like to add something to that. That line item actually is also the rental that we have for the satellite dishes, T-Mobile and Sprint combined. So we are no longer getting free payment from T-Mobile. So how much is that worth just to say that's actually the difference. That's the actual is about \$70,000 that we're not getting from them.

Maria Silsdorf: Okay. Maybe that would have been a better response. **Linda Morrisey:** Yeah I apologize, I looked at the rental property because the rental that I addressed really was rental permits, which we I kept the same \$110k. So I was looking at where we are right now. So that is actually I kept it the same.

Maria Silsdorf: Yeah. Perhaps it should be on a different line because this, this is an important discussion. I'm happy to prompt it. I don't know why I have to prompt this discussion. Happy to participate. But this is, you know. Yeah, you know what I'm saying? And I'm not attacking you at all, Linda. **Linda Morrisey;** I don't feel attacked, **Maria Silsdorf;** but perhaps we break out the lines in the future. Okay. I used to do this for a living, so you'll forgive my level of detail. So, the appropriate appropriated fund balance we are taking from that \$170,000 more than we have in the past, in the past year. So, that's the mechanism to balance the budget. **Linda Morrisey;** Correct? **Maria Silsdorf;** Okay. I just want to kind of call that out. We already spoke about the medical insurance for the board of trustees, so thank you for that. Um, we spoke about the mayor's salary, which is Linda made a correction based on my call out that the percentage was off. So what was in the final was \$84,000, and that's now down to \$79,000. Correct? Right. So I also just want to give a little history on this. If I could. Um, after Sandy, **Trustee Blake:** You weren't alone on that, by the way. The call out. You weren't alone.

Maria Silsdorf: I hope not. Thank you for that. Um, Yeah, no, I appreciate that, Matt. I'm sure lots of eyes are on this budget, and the more eyes, the better from where I sit. Um, after Sandy, there was a change in the way the mayor was functioning. And I think we are all indebted to Jimmy for his rehabilitation of the entire village. And I sincerely mean that. But I do think there's an opportunity now with Sandy more than a decade behind us and a full village administrator for the first time in more than a decade, as well as both Linda and Jonneigh in their positions, a very qualified team sitting right here, that perhaps the mayor's position should be re-examined to revert to governing our village along with the board versus managing the daily activities. And that would certainly be a quality of life improvement for the mayor, but also a potential change in the way the mayor's salary is reviewed. Um, sidewalk maintenance, housekeeping. We spoke at length at the first hearing on April 1st about the \$100,000 that's being added for the bathrooms. I just want to ask the question, are we looking at alternatives other than just a third party? And Linda said, yes, alternatives are being looked at because I would guess that there may be cheaper opportunities to address that than hiring a third party, which is, you know, pays its laborers one wage and pockets a lot more money than that. So, uh, and then the final comment I made was, thank you for the investment in the lifeguards. I know their wages are being increased so that we have a more stable force. And to me, I live on an island because there is a bay on one side and a beach on the other, and there's nothing more important to me. So those were the questions that we submitted and the answers that Linda kindly provided. So thank you. That is it. Thank you. **Trustee Hargraves:** Thanks, Maria. You're welcome.

Jonathan Jossen: Thank you, Mayor, for letting me speak. I'm looking at the tennis allotment. Of course. You know you're doing a great job cleaning up the green. Finally, it doesn't look like a bathroom. It looks beautiful. The tennis court looks like a bathroom. It's an embarrassment for 25 years. So, I just I'm trying to figure out the adopted budget. It says \$500 for equipment. Right. And it says \$4,000 for court maintenance. You have such a sneer on your face, Jimmy. And it has \$800 for supplies. What does that all mean? Because I noticed that you did something with the fence so it wouldn't fall

on us. Well, what else is going to be done to the tennis court with all that money, considering we did take in over \$22,000 last year. **Mayor Mallott:** That comes in from. Is that part of Kevin's wish list for the tennis court. **Linda Morrissey:** Well, To do what we need to do to that tennis court is going to end up probably being a capital project. We've gotten prices for fencing. We've gotten prices for correcting it. And there's new sewer project is going to impact that in some way, which is why we haven't invested in it at this point. Once we have that project going and know what's going to happen with this. Kevin's trying to look to see if there's some way to find a way to clear the sand off better. And we're just trying to do what we can. Once he finds what it is, I mean, there's ways that we can if it's more expensive than what's in here.

Jonathan Jossen: But we don't need that. I mean, basically the wind and everything we've been dealing with that that, you know, the sand comes in, it goes. That's not the issue. The issue is the fence falling down. You know, and I know you're not going to resurface this. I know you're not going to do any of that because of the possible plan that might happen in the next ten years. But right now, I mean, you have to basketball courts that you spent a lot of money on that nobody put what? **Mayor Mallott:** That's not our basketball stuff. **Linda Morrissey:** Whose is it? It's part of the REC program. **Speaker1:** It's part of the rec program. **Jonathan Jossen:** So they're the ones that should be embarrassed. Okay. Because that's such a waste of money. They should have anyway getting away from it. So we're really we're back to where we were for the last ten years. **Linda Morrissey:** Yeah. We've been trying to get again, we've gotten quotes for the fence and it's extraordinarily exorbitant amount of money. And to get somebody over here to do it is even more difficult. **Jonathan Jossen:** But it's in Kevin's purview. Yeah, it's. **Mayor Mallott:** But it's the whole place. You can't put a new fence around that pigsty over there. It all needs to be redone. And as Linda says, it's a capital improvement. No, I understand. **Jonathan Jossen:** But if we would have been solely doing it for ten years, it wouldn't have been a capital do it. **Mayor Mallott:** Slowly, John. It has to. The wagon park has to go. The whole tennis court area needs to be drilled out, refilled, refitted, redone. It's millions of dollars. **Jonathan Jossen:** That I'm not debating. **Mayor Mallott:** Income that we get from the tennis courts, \$21,000. You know, it's really not enough to even justify tennis, but justify it we do. We do the best we can to keep you entertained. That's all I can tell you.

Jonathan Jossen: And you. You do you have anything to say about what we can do with those tennis courts? Are we pushing for anything out of the trustees? Besides that, because we've been discussing this for eight years now with the project that's supposed to happen, that hasn't happened, and I understand why it hasn't happened. I mean, is any the other four of you have anything to say about this? **Trustee Norris:** Well, I spent four years of my life with Joe Speranza and others trying to come up with good plans. So, the plans are there. It's just finding the money to do it. And right now, the money is scarce. Compounding that is, you know, you reference a project that may or may not happen in the next ten years, You know, from all intents and purposes, from this board. That project is going forward. So, again, to invest even a moderate amount to make this more serviceable, you know, might not be millions, but it would be a quarter of a million to make it, you know. Better than just a band aid, right? We would be ripping it down. So here you think we all hear you. There's an unfortunate sequence. I wish that we had moved on some of the intermediate plans back, you know, five years ago when we spent the time doing this. It was just not executed.

Mayor Mallott: So, I'll tell you what's going on now, because this this EFC project is just becoming so expensive that we have to go to find other sources of income to pay for it. Now, we were confident with the \$21.5 million we got from the EFC that we could get this project done. And we've spent considerable amount of that money already. The remaining \$8 million that the EFC would give the village is not a grant. It's a loan. It has to be paid back. That's \$8 million over 30 years interest free, but it still has to be paid back. If I go and borrow more money, if I need another \$8 million, that's also be going to be a loan repayable to the EFC, which will bankrupt the village. Okay, so now I have to go and find another source. And we've been in touch with Schumer's office and the governor's office and everybody's office to try and get our hands on some of the \$400 billion of infrastructure money that came from the presidency. Okay. Now. I have bigger fish to fry than the tennis court. Okay. In this town, the other end of town, they're outside that you walk through and ride through every day from the pantry market to bungalow walk. That's street is dangerous. And if anyone trips on it and goes in. While I'm talking about this, I'll freak out, but that needs to be replaced. **Jonathan Jossen:** Why can't we go up? **Mayor Mallott:** It will. We're going to try and we're going to try and elevate it. Only to rip it up again. **Jonathan Jossen:** Right. Okay. **Mayor Mallott:** Capiche? Yeah. Okay. But I can't leave it as it is. So, Kevin and I and Joe have been over there. We're trying to. We have to. First of all, we have to get an engineer to come and take a look at it. Okay, Then we have to have it all explained to us how we do it. Then we have to go out to bid for it and we can use taxpayers money. There's money in the village budget that I feel comfortable in taking to spend. Somewhere in the region of \$250,000 to raise and drain that little piece of street there.

Jonathan Jossen: That's what I want to get into it. Our bigger problem is the ferry company. **Mayor Mallott:** listen, you have no idea what. **Jonathan Jossen:** That's even worse than that. **Mayor Mallott:** It's can't throw money at the ferry company and make it work. This can take some money off your taxpayers dollars and go out and get this kind of work done that needs to be done. And then they have to see where we're going with this drainage project that we really need. So everything is relative. This budget is not written in stone, okay? It's a fluid document. **Jonathan Jossen:** All I'm asking for is just so the fence doesn't fall down that's all I'm asking. **Mayor Mallott:** Nobody will come over to fix a piece of fence, John, But nobody will come and fix it. **Jonathan Jossen:** there are Already put poles up. All this do is put another two poles up. Yeah. **Mayor Mallott:** Hanging on in quiet desperation is the English way. That's what we're trying to do there. And he'll do the best that he can for you. **Jonathan Jossen:** That's all I'm asking. I wasn't asking you. **Mayor Mallott:** I wish you to stop me right on the get go. I wouldn't have had to go. I'd like to hear all this.

Trustee Arment: Wait, Maria, hold on. Sorry. Patty. In the chat, you said you have something to say about the tennis courts. **Chris Brahe:** Hey. Sorry. So this is Chris Brahe We're all in. In the car heading to Tyler's basketball game, so I pulled over. You guys can hear me okay, right? Yes. Yes. Okay. So just the quick comment I just wanted to give about the about the tennis courts, the basketball stuff. You know, obviously really disappointed that somebody took it upon themselves to walk in there, remove all of the winterization that I personally did on those on those expensive basketball hoops that were purchased. And as you know, about 50 gallons of water goes in it to stabilize it. We drained it in the in the off season so that they could be winterized. Somebody took it upon themselves, puts it up. And of course, the wind knocked it over. If somebody had been playing basketball when that happened, the damage that they would have inflicted upon themselves would have been really, really bad. So now we have a basketball hoop that needs to be completely replaced with a new rim and backboard. I will say just to the board, I'm a little frustrated because I sent multiple emails to Joe in over the last couple of weeks for some guidance on this since he helped me put this together and kind of guided us on how to how to winterize it. I got no response. You know, George Hesse was kind enough to try to look at the video cameras. Unfortunately, there isn't one that points there. I'd love to see if that could be fixed because we now have thousands of dollars of rec equipment in there with no video cameras allowing us some safety on it. So just throwing that out there. That's why those tennis courts are locked right now. The police put a cable around it. So I now need to get out there and address that. But really disappointed that that would happen. I mean, those are \$5,000 units and someone decided to completely take all the tarps and stuff out there and roll them out on their own. I mean, it's just disappointing. But guess not surprising. **Trustee Norris:** Noted.

Trustee Arment: Yeah, there's a bunch of other hands up also over here. David Lipsky, do you have an ad on there. **David Lipsky:** Or just a quick question? Congratulate the board on finally putting salaries that are easy to trace on the budget. But I I'm once again asking about the metered sales of water, which I've been asking about for a number of years. And do we have actually have, we have meters? **Mayor Mallott:** Let me just interrupt you there. Okay. Here's our plans for water meters. We have the last few that we've just received meters here that have been given to the respective plumbers to finish up. Kevin has a couple to finish up. Our plan is here again between the village administrator, the treasurer and myself is to turn over to the on to the new system. Uh, on June 1st, we would start the new system. We would watch it for one year to see how it performs, to see what we can see, to fix anything that's broken, any leaks that are out there and include in our next budget. A new water and sewer rate. Okay. I hope that answers your question. **David Lipsky:** Well, yeah, Jimmy and I understand how complicated it is, but there were other solutions. We could have established a, you know, a frontage rate for those few properties that for the last 2 or 3 years haven't had water meters, didn't do it. **Mayor Mallott:** David, this is the way we're going. This is the way we've decided to go. Thank you for your suggestions, but this is where we're going now. Starting on June 1st, we will turn on. We will take a year to look at the numbers. Then we'll come up before the end of the year. That will go into the next budget of water rate that can be adjusted. Going forward. Thank you. All right. Thanks.

Trustee Arment: If you can wait, Maria. George Eastman. Go ahead. George Eastman. Yes, I'm. **George Eastman:** I'm here. I can't turn on my video was that because of the hacker you turned off the ability to. **Trustee Arment:** Well, the board up here, we can't see video anyway, So. **Mayor Mallott:** we can just imagine you, George. **Trustee Arment:** We can hear you, though. **Trustee Norris:** We have your beautiful face ingrained in our memory. **George Eastman:** I'm as good looking as ever. I had spoken to Dawn, I think of the previous summer to last, and also to Chris and Matt about an idea that I had. I was hoping that we could continue, but I haven't had much feedback. So, if I could mention this as an open and public and have people thinking about it and that's to create it. It deals with the tennis court and it deals with the wagon park and it deals with some of the discussions we had over many years of this flood mitigation situation

downtown, a place to need pumps and where to put the catch basins and such. And I had a thought to think more three dimensionally with the tennis courts, which I sent Dawn some information and I don't recall if I forwarded the emails to Matt and Chris later, but that is to raise the tennis courts and create over 6000ft² of new space in the in the in the village, in the village town area. Real estate wise, 6000ft² is multiple lots. The real estate value of that, you know, would be substantial. The idea would be to contract with one of the companies that does large clear span for large, big box stores. I sent some of the information on that, but the raising it eight to somewhere between 9 and 10ft. Even with the fences up, it would not be higher than the peak of the current ferry terminal peak in the over the boathouse and such. And it would create space underneath for a wagon park. It would create space underneath for pumps and holding tanks. And it would also create potentially a substantial amount of enclosed space for future recreation like we used to have in the boathouse with ping pong and such underneath the platform. **Mayor Mallott:** So that's George Thank you for, for those ideas and they're great ideas. I have to cut you short there because we're having a budget hearing and. **George Eastman:** I thought, well, this is a budget issue in terms of finding it. But I thought in conjunction with the flood mitigation as a place to put equipment. **Mayor Mallott:** It won't Reflect in this current budget. George Okay. Just comments just on this on this budget. George Thank you. Got it.

Trustee Arment: Anybody else? All right. Beth Berns. **Beth Berns:** Hi. I have a quick, quick, quick question. Later in the meeting, your. The village is going to be voting on the plant budget for the village area. There are a bunch of planters on the north side of the ferry dock that were installed. Um, will those will the plantings be included in the? **Mayor Mallott:** It will, yes. **Beth Berns:** In the later budget or are they already. **Mayor Mallott:** We're not sure We'll get. **Jen Moritz:** That'll be phase II. **Mayor Mallott:** That will be in phase three. Okay. **Trustee Norris:** Phase three for this season. Yes. Thank you. **Beth Berns:** This year, this season? Yes. Great. Thank you.

Maria Silsdorf: Um, so I had earlier asked about the code enforcement budget when George was here. So, what is or will be allocated in the current in the proposed budget for code enforcement? **Mayor Mallott:** We haven't proposed anything. I haven't proposed anything in this budget for code enforcement. I'm trying to keep it into the hands that are doing that job already. And if you look at the line item of the court in fines, you'll see that that number has gone up over 200%. So, I think that we're having more success than was anticipated to do that. George has ten new recruits. I've had numerous meetings with George and with Joe that we need to continue the enforcement that that the police force is bringing us now. And as you just heard the chief say, that that's his mission this year. **Maria Silsdorf:** So, is there any sense of what percentage of his force would be allocated to code enforcement? I mean, is there or you're waiting on a proposal from him. **Mayor Mallott:** He says that he has ten new recruits that are their major job is going to be part of part of code enforcement. They we had junior officers, what I call junior officers, new recruits going around with Andy and going around with the experienced officers last year. And they watched those guys and showed those guys how to issue tickets and garbage tickets and tickets everywhere. So, I'm leaving in leaving it in George's hands how he's going to allocate his men. And we'll we hope that we'll see another improvement in court fines. And that's where it reflects.

Trustee Blake: I think it's compliance. It's not just fines. We want to see is compliance. Right. If the if the you know, the stick is the fine and but ultimately one can. Fine. **Mayor Mallott:** But what I could ask of you, okay, is as far as the OBA goes, is to. I think that. When it comes to the question of garbage cans, this should be no limit to how many garbage cans somebody has. I think every home, if you're a rental house or you have guests over, you need more cans. You need more cans than you need. Okay. You need a 32 gallon can with a fixed lid and two handles. **Maria Silsdorf:** The village code says three cans per house. **Mayor Mallott:** We can change the village code, **Maria Silsdorf:** change it and I'll communicate whatever you want me to. **Mayor Mallott:** We'll change it.

Trustee Hargraves: As a homeowner, don't want to pay for someone elses garbage. **Maria Silsdorf:** That was going to be my second part. So similar to. **Mayor Mallott:** As we've had that thought too, because when we do the water meters, we'll know who's using. **Maria Silsdorf:** Okay, So, my comment on the garbage that Dawn I agree with Dawn is the same as my comment on the water meters as you track. And Joe had the opportunity to meet with the board and we discussed we began to began to discuss this. There are philosophical questions to be answered as you determine rates of water meters. And I think it would behoove all of us to outline what those questions are full time, year round versus short term summer rental house versus owner lived in house, commercial versus residential.

Mayor Mallott: There's a million questions. **Maria Silsdorf:** So, let's figure out what questions are important to us. **Mayor Mallott:** Let's get the meters on first. **Maria Silsdorf:** Yeah, you go ahead and do that. That's your job. That's your job. **Trustee Hargraves:** But let's start talking. **Maria Silsdorf:** But let's start talking as we track the information for a year. **Mayor Mallott:** As soon as we get those rates. As soon as we get six months worth. **Maria Silsdorf:** six

months, **Mayor Mallott:** from June 1st till October, we can be we'll have a vast number. **Maria Silsdorf:** We'll have information. **Mayor Mallott:** After that, hat it reduces. **Maria Silsdorf:** For months. But what the hell? Those are data points. Data points will be based on the on the information you receive. I'm not sure. Maybe it will. Maybe it won't enlighten us as to those questions, but I think it's critically important this is going to be an important source of revenue. And as a homeowner, do I want to pay the same as a rental house that has different people week in, week out? Just the cleaning alone of those houses is going to like, you know, stomp what I use in water. And the same question goes to garbage. I'm in my little house with my little husband and me Occasionally we have guests, but it pales in comparison. So yeah, I want the garbage picked up. I would never advocate to have the garbage left behind, but I don't want to pay for somebody else's rental house garbage. **Mayor Mallott:** Do you have any suggestions? **Maria Silsdorf:** Yes, I do. As a matter of fact, stick with the three cans and then put back into the contract what was in the contract based on the quality of life recommendation with Stan that he photographs and generates additional fees to those that have garbage in excess of three cans. That was your program a few years ago when we walked away from it. So that's my recommendation. Revisit your original program that I thought was well stated sound and builds it into the current contract with Brownie.

Mayor Mallott: It doesn't work, but we'll address it with Brownie. It'll you know, that's good to but you need. **Maria Silsdorf:** You need to start with a philosophical agreement that not every house is equal as it comes to. **Mayor Mallott:** I totally agree. But there's only I don't have solutions for everything. **Maria Silsdorf:** You only. I'm talking to the board of five and I'm to be fair with solutions.

Trustee Arment: To be fair, Maria, it's tricky when you're talking about usage based pricing effectively and that in a lot of cases that's easy to do and make sense. Water, for instance, totally makes sense usage based pricing because we can meter it. **Maria:** Yes, you can. **Trustee Arment:** Yeah. That's so that's a clear win. It's tougher with garbage because then you're creating an incentive for people to not follow the rules. So, to dump the garbage in our village cans or to let it go other places. **Maria Silsdorf:** And if a very small percentage of that will happen, that's fine. But, you know, enforcement and compliance is not the only consideration when actually setting out what the standard should be. And the standard today is as murky as can be. You speak to one thing and your book, your code says another. So figure out what you want it to be and then let's enforce it. Thank you.

Trustee Blake: Just I think the. Personally, I'm not sure we'll have clarity in six months, four months, six months on the data. I think it's going to take a little bit longer. Um, I do think there's an opportunity for us to take a step back and say, you know what those usage parameters are. I do think the water will be extremely telling. We'll be able to see a lot through that. It will take us again some time to sort of figure out what that data stream looks like. But, you know, there should be a difference in pricing based on water use, like there's no doubt about it. And, you know, and I think that's absolutely part of the maybe we're not explicit about that philosophy yet. And I actually agree that we should you know, we can start working on that now. There's nothing preventing us from working on that now.

Trustee Norris: I'm sorry, just to make one comment. What I haven't heard here is what I thought the plan was four years ago when we started. Five years ago, we started talking about new water meters is to hire an engineer to help us work through these rate structures. So if this board is walking away from that? **Mayor Mallott:** Not at all, no. **Trustee Norris:** So I just want to be clear. We don't have to reinvent the third party partnership here, and we're not going to develop it on ourselves. And just another comment, and it's probably to Ken Gray, I don't know if we can allocate different unit pricing for water. For one, a rental house or a residential. It's based on usage, usage, size, price. Just because you got a little cloudy there, the different volume. **Mayor Mallott:** There's going to be a huge difference here because it's not only water, it's going to be sewer that is charged to X amount money for water, X amount of money for sewer. It's not different. It's much more money. Yeah. No. **Trustee Norris:** Yeah no I get it. It just it will be based on a unitized value.

Maria Silsdorf: So there's volumes then there's rate, volume rates of discretion.

Trustee Arment: Well, I think we need to be careful not to make too much of an us versus them categorization of like renters versus non renters, because we have a lot of gray areas here. A lot of our homeowners rent their houses sometimes at least sometimes. And. Yes, but hopefully. Right. **Trustee Norris:** I just don't know about the legality of charging \$0.50 a gallon for one house. And \$1.50 on the other. I mean, I'm all for revenue. I just we have to we have to look into that. **Trustee Arment:** I would much rather have a fixed rate. And then just based on usage, that's a lot cleaner and a lot of ways. Yeah. **Trustee Blake:** We should have the debate. I think the point is we should have the debate. Yeah.

Linda Stertz: Hello? Um, we're just on budget now, right? Yeah. Theoretically, there'll be another hearing of the citizens at the end. Yeah. Yes. Okay. So, regarding the budget, deeply gratified that the lifeguard budget was passed, you know, at its higher level, as we always say, you know, this is Ocean Beach and with absolute deep respect for the fire department and the police department, the lifeguard chief works year round. I would like to make a proposal that you include in each agenda. And if there's nothing for Jill Weinstein to report, fine. But this is a year round endeavor. And, you know, not infrequently is left off the agenda and that's not acceptable. So, thank you for approving that budget. It's crucial for all of us. I also wanted to ask about liability due to the disrepair. Right. **Trustee Blake:** So you haven't approved it yet, but we haven't voted on it yet, but we're working toward it. **Linda Stertz:** Oh, maybe I should sit down for a while. That's right. Um. As far as liability with the disrepair. Okay. So, I understand that it's really expensive to repair it. The liability insurance that the village has for things like this. Okay. I walk the bay every day. It's really rusty. It's really windy. And it's like this. If somebody gets hurt by that fence, will our insurance cover it since we've been negligent in keeping it up? **Mayor Mallott:** I guess that's a good question. We could close it down and put red tape around it. **Linda Stertz:** And seriously, when I walk by there, it's like, ooh, you know, it's really dangerous. **Mayor Mallott:** And we'll have to say, yeah, there's a task at your own risk. **Trustee Norris:** We'll ask Kevin. To do a deep review of what's there and what temporary repairs will allow a certitude of safety. Yeah. **Linda Stertz:** Fair enough. I mean, the whole endeavor is another story. It's the safety issue that I'm worried about and what else? I think the rest is just regular hearing of the citizens. Oh, I know. Um, garbage cans in Ocean Walk. Is that a budget issue? Because I walk the beach all the time and sometimes I have so much garbage from the beach and there's no place to put it. Maria has a photograph of me full with garbage. **Mayor Mallott:** We're working on that. That goes along with the housekeeping number. Right at the moment, our blue collar workers cleaned the bathrooms. **Linda Stertz:** What? What about Jimmy? The garbage cans on the beach?

Mayor Mallott: I'm going to get to that part. We're trying to get somebody to do the bathrooms that will free up our blue collar guys. Okay. I want to split shifts for our blue collar guys. So have two guys coming in at seven in the morning, and they work till 2 or 3 in the afternoon and then have two guys in from 2 or 3 in the afternoon till the last bolt. Their job during that time, among other jobs, will be to collect the garbage up at the up at the lifeguards, collect the garbage at the end of every street, collect the garbage cans all through town, and have that job done constantly during the day. So there never should be an overflowing garbage. **Linda Stertz:** Right. Right. And that's great during the season. I mean. Right now, one is hard pressed to find one of those big gray garbage cans up by the beach. Garbage dog poop. **Mayor Mallott:** Kevin takes them out of there during the winter time. I'm sure there'll be scheduled to be put back as soon as he returns to town. **Linda Stertz:** Okay. **Trustee Blake:** You have to go over the walk. I mean, that's because I've done this. **Linda Stertz:** Oh, no, I'm not talking about on the beach. I'm talking about there are only a couple all along. Ocean reduced. So simple.

Trustee Arment: Yeah. We're still the reduced off season placement of the cans, but I think they're probably going to change in the next few weeks. **Linda Stertz:** Need a couple more in Ocean walk that's all. **Trustee Arment:** Is the on season can arrangement good for you. **Linda Stertz:** Yeah it's on almost every walk but in the winter no. **Trustee Arment:** Okay we'll let them know. **Linda Stertz:** No recyclables. **Trustee Arment:** We'd love to address that. That's a separate. Yeah. Yeah. Okay. **Linda Stertz:** Thank you.

Andrew Hemingway: Hello, Andrew Hemingway. 507 Bayberry Walk. Hope everybody's doing well. Thank you for all the great work you guys do. Um, I don't think the garbage is a big deal. I think you're nitpicking, and it's nickel and diming. It's like saying every time you have a guest over, we're going to start banging you guys just for having a guest over for extra garbage. I mean we do rent July and August. I don't use extra cans. I'm here every Sunday, as you guys know. You all see me working on my yard. We don't have an overflow of excessive garbage. I would hope that everybody cleans their house once a week. **Mayor Mallott:** you would hope, Andrew You would. **Andrew Hemingway:** But yeah, you know, we get the house mopped and I don't there's not a ton of water being used. The meters that we did put in, we were one of the first houses we actually caught a major leak on the ground. So to your point, it actually did.

Mayor Mallott: Yeah, the lake behind the house. **Andrew Hemingway:** We did. And they found it. And so from that perspective, it worked anyway. **Trustee Arment:** Have all your leaks in before we're billing for it? Exactly. **Andrew Hemingway:** So, that was a good thing. But actually so **Mayor Mallott:** and let me tell you, we're going to find 50 more of those. And it was as soon as we **Andrew Hemingway:** and I was happy that. We did for the village and saved a ton of water. Right. So from that perspective, the meter worked right as designed.

Mayor Mallott: That's why I can't stop billing right away. Okay. Got to find those leaks. I got to find out. You know, again, we look at people, we're looking at the computer all the time, somebody using 6000 gallons of water a week. That's a lot of water. When there's nobody here Absolutely. In touch with those people, say, oh, it's my sprinkler system still on. Yeah.

Andrew Hemingway: Now, where I am more concerned with the garbage is the beautification of the village. I believe firmly that everybody should have a nice, tasteful garbage bin, right? So we're not seeing these horrendous, embarrassing garbage cans all over the place every weekend. I think that's an embarrassment to the village. Garbage bags everywhere. So I agree with you. More garbage cans put in a tasteful place. I mean, that's my. **Mayor Mallott:** With lids and a garbage can. A garbage that the man can pick up. That's the other problem. Yeah. So you have these people buy these garbage cans and they're beautiful, they're big, and they got a lid on them. **Andrew Hemingway:** And I think a bin, the bin sizes need to be increased because I do believe in we don't talk enough about beautification of the village. **Mayor Mallott:** but a lot of those garbage cans are for a machine to pick up and tip over. We don't have those. So if that garbage can is full to the brim, it takes two guys to muscle that thing up into the truck. **Andrew Hemingway:** I mean, I'm constantly bending over, picking up. **Mayor Mallott:** I have a new garbage man that I'm yet to sit down and meet because he's very busy doing other things, Stang sold his business. This is now Brownie. He bought the contract. How many years do we have? Two more. Two more options, which gives us an opportunity to see if Mr. Brownie is going to work in concert with the village or he has other ideas. If there's other ideas out there that he has. And we'll when it comes to going out for a new garbage contract, we'll go out to bid for new garbage. A new garbage contract. It's in motion. **Andrew Hemingway:** And then lastly, I do have something selfish to talk about. Mayor, I talk to you about this. You did? And I said I wouldn't bring it up here, but I figured, what the heck, I have a captive audience. I am willing to pay for this. So, I live at 507 Bayberry Walk. It's corner. Corner houses, as you know, across the street from the firehouse at night. So I bought the house. We knew the fire alarm. That's not why I'm bringing it up at night. There is a second sun, the light that shines on the American flag, which you need a light shining on the American flag. That's you have to have it. But it's enormously bright and it shines right into my house. Over the years, we've tried everything. Blackout, curtains, everything you can think of. It is bright. I invite anybody on this board to come to my house at night. What I'm proposing is turning that light off. I will pay for a mid mast light to be installed to shine on that flag. **Mayor Mallott:** From your house. **Andrew Hemingway:** No, you can. Well, I mean, you can't do that. Sure. I mean, whatever works, but not shining into my house. **Mayor Mallott:** There you go. **Andrew Hemingway:** So, I'm thinking like a light mid mast shining up under the flag. There you go. If everybody's amicable to that, I'll get a quote from K-Mac or whomever. But if everybody's okay with that, I mean, I've obviously got to talk to the fire guys, but even. **Maria Silsdorf:** Put a shade up. **Andrew Hemingway:** It is, I can't. I'm serious anybody's welcome to come to my house and look it's like it's ridiculous. Thank you. Thank you. **Trustee Arment:** Yeah. And on the on the beautification. One more thing on the beautification thing, you know, because you're right. There isn't enough, you know, talk about that sometimes. And one of the things we're hoping for with having the new bathroom cleaning idea and, you know, by freeing up the DPW staff, we're hoping they can also do a lot more street cleaning. And because we know that was a problem last summer in particular. And so we're hoping to get that improved, too. And that's why we're, you know, we're trying to free up our current staff's time to allow for more stuff like that. That'd be awesome. **Andrew Hemingway:** Thank you, Marco.

Jonathan Jossen: Since Chris is on the phone, could they just have those basketball courts removed? What? You know, the courts, the basketball rims? Could we have them removed. **Trustee Arment:** The whole hoops, you mean? Yeah. **Jonathan Jossen:** Yeah since he's on the phone, he's responsible, So I don't. **Mayor Mallott:** Know where he's going to put him. **Jonathan Jossen:** We'll look into it. Just. Well. **Trustee Norris:** All right. Any other budget questions? **Trustee Arment:** Well, none here.

APPROVE & ADOPT INC. VILLAGE OF OCEAN BEACH FINAL BUDGET 2023-2024: Resolution No. 2023-052: Mayor Mallott moved as follows:

WHEREAS, the Village of Ocean Beach held duly noticed public hearings on April 1, 2023 and April 29, 2023 concerning the 2023–2024 Village Budget; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees requested and encouraged the public to submit comments & questions via mail & e-mail info@villageofoceanbeach.org for each hearing;

Now, therefore, it is hereby

RESOLVED that the Village Board of Trustees hereby approves and adopts the Final 2023/2024 Village Budget and all schedules.

Trustee Hargraves seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

PUBLIC HEARING #2

OPEN TIME: 12:48PM – Mayor/Blake

CLOSING TIME: 12:49 PM – Mayor/Norris

Public Hearing Notes:

Ken Gray: Special permit number 308, which is the Palms Ocean Beach Palms Hotel at one 7171 Cottage Walk. Uh, this is for a change of ownership site and site plan review. We have the chairman of the Planning Board, Joe Speranza, here. Um, the planning board slash, um. Architecture Review board heard this application and has made a recommendation for approval. Um, and would you like to discuss that, Mr. Speranza? **Joe Speranza:** We had a duly noticed hearing on in fact, we had two of them on this application which was vetted and a recommendation was made for approval without conditions. That's it. Okay. **Mayor Mallott:** Thank you. Thank you, Chairman. **Ken Gray:** Any questions from the board? Any questions from the public? I'm sorry. I'm just saying. Any questions from the public concerning this application? Hearing none. Is there a motion to close the public hearing? So moved.

SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION NO. 308: Resolution No. 2023-053: Mayor Mallott moved as follows: PALMS OCEAN BEACH LLC (Palms Hotel), 170-171 COTTAGE WALK OCEAN BEACH, NEW YORK - to consider Special Use Permit for change of ownership/site plan review at 170-171 Cottage Walk, Ocean Beach, NY. § 164-32 – Uses permitted by special permit, § 164-36 – Site Plan Review.

WHEREAS, the applicants JON RANDAZZO, JOE BONOCORE, MITCH DIAMOND and MARK TRANSPORT (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Palms”), new owners of the premises at 170-171 Cottage Walk, Ocean Beach, NY, submitted an application to declare that certain interior changes, together with an awning replacement, are consistent with its operation as a “full service hotel” and are not violative of its pre-existing and non-conforming use, and that a new Special Use Permit be granted in connection with same; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board/ARB reviewed the application at a public duly noticed meetings, held ad closed on February 4, 2023 and March 25, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has taken note that the “hotel” is in the R-4 residential zone and therefore, absent other authorization, hotel use is a prohibited use under Village Code 164-30. A as not being expressly permitted; but

WHEREAS, the Applicant has represented to the Planning Board/ARB that the use of the premises as a hotel has been in existence for a sufficient period of time to qualify for an exemption as a pre-existing non-conforming use under Village Code 164-18. D (extension of a nonconforming use); and

WHEREAS, based upon the representations of the Applicant, and after due deliberation, the Planning Board did vote at such meeting to recommend approval to this Board of Trustees of the application, subject to certain conditions and the accuracy of the representations of the applicant at the Planning Board/ARB hearing; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Trustees has reviewed the application, the recommendation of the Planning Board/ARB, and has taken into consideration comment from the public at its duly noticed Public Hearings, held and closed on February 4, 2023 and March 25, 2023; now, therefore, it is

RESOLVED, that the application of the Palms for a Special Use Permit for a “full-service hotel” is continued and **APPROVED** subject to the use and structure of the premises otherwise being in compliance with the Village Code, a determination to be made by the Building Inspector and/or Zoning Board of Appeals.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: This recommendation does **not** cure existing violations of law (if any). It does **not** mean that the subject premises are now in compliance with the Building Code of the Village of Ocean Beach, nor with any other Federal, State or local law.

Trustee Norris seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

PUBLIC HEARING #3

OPEN TIME: 12:49 PM – Mayor/Blake

CLOSING TIME: 12:52 PM – Mayor Hargraves

Public Hearing Notes:

Ken Gray: Thank you. So, this was a special permit application from Palms Ocean Beach. Again, change of ownership and slight site plan review at 7-8 Bungalow Walk. Um, this. This same application was approved back in 2011, and it had certain conditions attached to it. Um, the applicant made the, made their application to the planning slash architectural review board, which made a recommendation just to continue what's been happening there that that special permit with the same conditions that were attached to the property in 2011 and there was a recommendation for that approval. Mr. Speranza, did you want to speak to that at all? **Joe Speranza:** Yes, um, two additional conditions were added to the seven that exist. They are that the Fire Island News sign be removed. In that no Business should have a sign on a building that doesn't live in the building. And another was that existing air conditioners that project from the east and north side of the building, if they project that they'd be covered either with lattice to weather and be part of the building in appearance or replaced with air conditioners through the wall that are flush with the wall. That's it. **Trustee Hargraves:** Thanks Joe. **Ken Gray:** With respect to the sign, I just want to add, it was a sign for Fire Island News. Obviously Mercogliano own and operate the Fire Island News. At one point they had used one of the rooms in that building for storage purposes. I think they stored some material since they sold the property. They're no longer using that space and we didn't. And the sign remained up and the board didn't feel it was appropriate to have a sign for a business on a building that it's not actually operating in. So we asked Mr. Randazzo to take that down and he consented and agreed to that immediately. So with that said, are there any other questions? **Mayor Mallott:** Move to close the public hearing?

SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION NO. 309: Resolution No. 2023-054: Mayor Mallott moved as follows: PALMS OCEAN BEACH LLC (Palms Hotel), 7-8 BUNGALOW WALK OCEAN BEACH, NEW YORK to consider Special Use Permit for change of ownership/site plan review at 7-8 Bungalow Walk, Ocean Beach, NY. § 164-32 – Uses permitted by special permit, § 164-36 – Site Plan Review.

WHEREAS, the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach is in receipt of a SPA#309 submitted by JON RANDAZZO, JOE BONOCORE, MITCH DIAMOND and MARK TRANSPORT, Palms Ocean Beach, LLC, 7-8 Bungalow Walk for change of ownership /site plan review; and,

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees had previously approved SPA#246 for this property (for the prior owner) with certain conditions (listed as # 1 – 7, below); and,

WHEREAS, the Village Planning Board/Architectural Review Board has reviewed the current application (SPA#309) at a Public Hearing held on March 25, 2023, and recommended approval of the Special Permit with the same 7 conditions, plus 2 new conditions (listed as # 8 -9, below);

Now, therefore, it is hereby

RESOLVED that the Village Board of Trustees accepts the Planning Board/Architectural Review Board's recommendation and APPROVES SPA #309, with the following conditions:

1. Application, as submitted, recommended for approval provided any needed area variances are obtained. If variances not approved, construction on north side of premises will not be built/permitted.
2. Canopy on 2nd floor to be open-air cedar trellis with no canopy ~~on north side~~. or material.
3. Applicant to submit a Site Plan (to include landscaping design) for Architectural Review Board review and approval.

4. Proposed exterior lights under gable to match Village prototypical light.
5. North elevation roof gutters and leaders with proper drainage receptacles to minimize surface drainage.
6. Existing pavers on Village property on west side of Bungalow Walk to be removed and replaced with stone. (See Item #3, above).
7. No window/wall air conditioning units that protrude out of the north side of the building, excluding air vents (maximum 6" diameter) that may be required for venting purposes.
8. Fire Island News sign to be removed. Should not have a sign on the building, as it is no longer a building tenant.
9. Install flush mount and/or lattice on Bay Walk and Bungalow Walk around the through the wall air conditioning units. Replace thru wall A/C units on Bungalow Walk with flush mounted units or enclose existing units with lattice.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: This recommendation does **not** cure existing violations of law (if any). It does **not** mean that the subject premises is now in compliance with the Building Code of the Village of Ocean Beach, nor with any other law.

Trustee Blake seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

PUBLIC HEARING #4

OPEN TIME: 12:52PM – Mayor/Norris

CLOSING TIME: 12:57 PM – Mayor/Hargraves

Public Hearing Notes:

Ken Gray: Mr. Mayor, we have another fourth public hearing. Motion to open the public hearing concerning local law. Proposed local law three of 2023. This is to amend Chapter 124 of the Village Code enacting a property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters pursuant to Section 460 6-A of New York State real property tax law. Do I have a motion to open? So move. Do I have a second? Second. All in favor? Aye. Hearings open. Does anyone believe the proposed local law is available on the back table and was posted on the website? I don't know if anybody on the board has any questions about this.

Trustee Blake: Yeah. Mean guess. Yeah. Mean maybe can go through the legalities of it. But again, this is in the spirit of setting incentives for people to join and remain within the fire department. I think we're not dissimilar from communities all over the country. It's increasingly difficult to get volunteers. And, you know, it's not just in the fire service. The issue with the fire service is it's dangerous. It takes a lot of time and effort and energy to get the training and to maintain that training. It's really a commitment. And I think just as a community, you know, we have an obligation to ourselves and also in terms of serving the districts that we're responsible for serving contractually to promote and engage as many possible members as we can and, you know, to create incentives that sort of push us in that direction. So, I think in sum that's the intent of this. **Trustee Norris:** It's the right thing to do and that's what we're doing.

Mayor Mallott: The eligibility requirements. For a volunteer fire company or fire department that provide the property is owned by the volunteer firefighter. The property gets the 10% tax benefit. The property is a primary residence of the volunteer firefighter. This is only for Ocean Beach, which doesn't include firemen that live in Seaview or out of district. Or out of Ocean Beach District. The property is used exclusively for residential purposes. The volunteer firefighter resides in the village of Ocean Beach, and the village of Ocean Beach is served by such incorporated volunteer fire company or fire department. The volunteer firefighter is certified by the authority having jurisdiction as an enrolled member of such an incorporated volunteer fire company or fire department. And the volunteer firefighter meets the minimum service requirement established by the village of Ocean Beach, which is hereby established as two years. I do. Have a question? Uh, because I don't see it here anyway. How do we address this issue? Um, once a fireman retires. **Ken Gray:** If he. There's a grant of lifetime exemption. Any eligible enrolled member who accrues more than 20 years of active service shall be granted the 10% exemption for the remainder of his or her life. **Mayor Mallott:** So this is not retroactive? No,

sir, It's not retroactive. And that kicks in only when a firefighter going forward retires. This will be enacted, if not in this year's budget? No. So it will be in next year's budget, Correct? Okay.

Ken Gray: Um, and if a volunteer firefighter who is, um, passes away their unremarried surviving spouse will continue to get the uh. **Mayor Mallott;** So I know that part. **Ken Gray:** As long as they it remains their primary residence.

Trustee Blake: I think it's important to say that within the volunteer corps that we have for the fire department, not every member will be eligible for this because not every member has their primary residence here in Ocean Beach. It's one of the trade-offs with this thing. I wish and I wish we could construct it in a way where anybody who's willing to show up and do their duty benefited from something like this. But by law, you can't. And, you know, I honestly wrestle with that a bit. That bothers me. I think it should always try to push for a level playing field. But the other elements that I referenced already sort of, you know, makes this the right move. So anyway

Ken Gray: Thank you, Matt. Is there anybody in the public who has any questions, sir? **Jonathan Jossen:** What about the EMT? They're just as important. **Ken Gray:** They're included. Included. **Trustee Blake:** They're included. They're included in that? Yeah, they're included.

Ken Gray: Yeah. Any other questions? Motion to close the public hearing.

ADOPT LOCAL LAW 03 OF 2023: Resolution No. 2023-055: Mayor Mallott moved as follows: - A local law to amend Chapter 124 of the Village Code Enacting a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters Pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law

BE IT ENACTED, by the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach, as follows:

Section 1. A new Article III of Chapter 124 of the Village Code, entitled "Volunteer Firefighter Tax Exemption", is hereby enacted pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 466-a and added to the Village Code as follows:

§ 124-6 Volunteer Firefighter Tax Exemption.

Grant of exemption.

An exemption of 10% of assessed value of property owned by an enrolled member as set forth below, or such enrolled member and their spouse, is hereby granted from taxation with respect to the real property taxes of the Village of Ocean Beach as long as eligibility requirements are met.

Eligibility requirements.

Such exemption shall be granted to an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire Company or fire department provided that:

- A. The property is owned by the volunteer firefighter;
- B. The property is the primary residence of the volunteer firefighter;
- C. The property is used exclusively for residential purposes;
- D. The volunteer firefighter resides in the Village of Ocean Beach and the Village of Ocean Beach is served by such incorporated volunteer fire company or fire department;
- E. The volunteer firefighter is certified by the authority having jurisdiction as an enrolled member of such an incorporated volunteer fire company or fire department; and
- F. The volunteer firefighter meets the minimum service requirement established by the Village of Ocean Beach, which is hereby established as 2 years.

Application.

A volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker must annually, on or before the applicable taxable status date, file an application for such property tax exemption with the assessor responsible for preparing the assessment roll for the Village of Ocean Beach, on a form as prescribed by the New York State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance. The Village of Ocean Beach must maintain written guidelines, available upon request, as to the requirements of an enrolled volunteer member relating to this exemption.

Certification.

The Board of Trustees must annually file with the assessor, prior to the applicable taxable status date, a list of the active volunteer members who are certified to meet the minimum service requirement. Such list must provide, as of the applicable taxable status date, the number of years of service served by each such enrolled member and such enrolled member's address of residence.

No diminution of benefits.

An applicant who is receiving any benefit pursuant to Article 4 of the Real Property Tax Law as of the effective date of this article shall not have any of those benefits diminished because of this article.

Grant of lifetime exemption.

Any eligible enrolled member who accrues more than 20 years of active volunteer service (as certified by the authority having jurisdiction) shall be granted the 10% exemption as authorized by this article for the remainder of his or her life as long as his or her primary residence is located within the Village of Ocean Beach.

Un-remarried spouse of enrolled member killed in the line of duty.

The un-remarried surviving spouse of a deceased enrolled member killed in the line of duty, as certified by the authority having jurisdiction, is qualified to continue to receive an exemption, as long as the deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least five years and had been receiving the exemption at the time of his or her death.

Un-remarried spouse of deceased enrolled member.

The un-remarried surviving spouse of a deceased enrolled member, as certified by the authority having jurisdiction, is qualified to continue to receive an exemption, as long as the deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least 20 years and the deceased volunteer and un-remarried spouse had been receiving the exemption at the time of his or her death.

Section 2. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Office of the Secretary of State.

Section 3. Authority.

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Ocean Beach is authorized to adopt this local law pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law, as well as Municipal Home Rule Law 10(1)(i), 10(1)(ii)(a)(11), 10(1)(ii)(a)(12) and 10(2).

Section 4. Severability.

If any section, subsection, clause, phrase or other portion of this Local Law is, for any reason, declared invalid, in whole or in part, by any court, agency, commission, legislative body or other authority of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent portion. Such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof, which other portions shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Trustee Blake seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

PUBLIC HEARING #5

OPEN TIME:

CLOSING TIME:

Public Hearing Notes: No public hearing

AUTHORIZE & APPROVE WATER TAXI, WATER LIMO & CHARTER BOAT RATES:

Ken Gray: The fifth public hearing, is concerning water taxi, water limo and charter boats. Mr. Mayor, I'm going to ask that we adjourn this and continue the hearing to the next board meeting. So moved. Do I have a second? All in favor? Motion carries. Thank you.

Trustee Hargraves seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: Resolution No. 2023-056: Mayor Mallott moved follows:

- 1.) Delete Item #14 – Accept & Approve Restoration of LOSAP Funds – Tyler Smith
- 2.) Delete Item #15 – Approval to Accept 2021-2022 Audit Prepared by Cullen & Danowski, LLC
- 3.) Add Item #16 - Accept & Approve Chamber of Commerce Beautification Proposal Phase II

Trustee Blake seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEORA): Resolution No. 2023-057: Mayor Mallott moved as follows:

WHEREAS, the Village hereby declares that all action items on this Agenda, unless otherwise indicated, are Type II, pursuant to SEQRA, and, therefore, no further environmental review is required; and

Now, therefore, it is hereby

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the SEQRA declaration on all action items as Type II, unless otherwise indicated on this Agenda.

Trustee Hargraves seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Deputy Mayor Blake	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Norris	Voted Aye
Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye