



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 January 13, 2024 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 8:54 AM from the Village Office, for the purpose of discussing personnel, contracts and pending litigation.

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

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

No motions or resolutions were acted upon in Executive Session. Executive Session was closed at 11:09AM by Mayor Mallott. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moritz, upon call the following voted:

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

GENERAL SESSION: At 11:28 AM, Mayor Mallott moved to open General Session. Trustee Levine seconded this motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

Following the pledge to the Flag and Roll Call at 11:29 AM:

There were present:	Mayor:	James S. Mallott
	Trustees:	Marco Arment
		Dawn L. Hargraves, via Zoom
		Ian Levine
		Jennifer Moritz
	Village Counsel:	Kenneth Gray
	Village Administrator:	Joseph DiFrancisco

Mayor Mallott: Good morning everybody. Are we on full steam here? Okay. Well, there's a few people here, and I hear there's probably 80 people. Um. On zoom. It's pretty bad out here again. It's high tide right now here in the bay. There's a ton of water in town again. Uh, it's just a ongoing catastrophe that we have here. Um. We're trying to work through it. Our construction crew, uh, that is doing the storm water project is realizing now exactly what they're doing here to prevent what's going on now, in the future, when this project is finished. We're not going to stop the water coming into town. And as I've said before, it will be taken to be, to take the storm water out of town. Uh, in a in a. Reasonably quick fashion. There should be no puddles left over and the village should be dry. I would imagine something like this would. Take at least a day to pump out into the bay. Kevin Schelling is not in his head, but once it was done, we would be reasonably dry again. So, we look forward to moving on this project. It's taken up tremendous amount of our time and we're working very closely with the, with the contractor. Um, we've had a few delays. Uh, we're a little behind schedule, but I'm assured by the contractor that when and if. Uh, they need to work 24/7, seven days a week. They will. They're absolutely prepared to do it. So, we live and hope. Um. Kenny, would you, uh, call the roll, please? If Kenny's there? **Trustee Arment:** He's

there. You have to unmute, though. **Ken Gray:** Can you hear me? **Mayor Mallott:** Yes, Ken. **Ken Gray:** All right. So, uh, Trustee Levine. **Trustee Levine:** Present. **Ken Gray:** Trustee Arment. **Trustee Arment:** Here. **Ken Gray:** Uh, trustee Jen un. **Trustee Moritz:** Here. **Ken Gray:** Moritz. Uh, who else have we got there? **Trustee Moritz:** Dawn. **Ken Gray:** Dawn. Hargraves, are you available? Are you there? **Trustee Hargraves:** I am, I'm on zoom. **Ken Gray:** Terrific. Okay. And Mayor Mallott. **Mayor Mallott:** Yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 16, 2023 & WORKING SESSION MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 1, 2023: Resolution No. 2024-001: Mayor Mallott moved follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting held on December 16, 2023, as amended and the Board of Trustees Working Session for Tree Legislation on December 1, 2023 are accepted as presented.

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

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

Mayor Mallott: Approval of the minutes as presented. I think there's a slight change. **Trustee Moritz:** Yes. Um, there is a change. We made a mistake between, uh, George and Kevin's. Uh, instead of two weeks, it's three weeks. It was a clerical error. We need a resolution. **Trustee Levine:** It's about the, uh, the payout that they were getting. Yeah. **Trustee Hargraves:** So you you're going to make a motion to amend the minutes, Jen. **Trustee Moritz:** Yes, I'm making a motion to amend the minutes. **Trustee Hargraves:** and I would second that. **Mayor Mallott:** Thank you. Okay Kenny. **Ken Gray:** Alrighty. All right. You guys can hear me, right? **Mayor Mallott:** Kenny, just a second. There's a. Second set of minutes from December 1st. It was a. **Ken Gray:** A special meeting. **Mayor Mallott:** Yes. **Ken Gray:** The work, the working session. So there's a motion to approve the minutes from the working session. **Mayor Mallott:** Uh, December 1st. **Ken Gray:** Correct. **Mayor Mallott:** That was, that was in regard to landscape. **Ken Gray:** Yes. **Mayor Mallott:** Okay. So moved. **Trustee Moritz:** Second. **Trustee Arment:** Second **Ken Gray:** All in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIM VOUCHERS: Resolution No. 2024-002: Mayor Mallott moved follows:

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

General Fund, in the amount of \$190,813.99, for Gross Payroll from 12/13/23 through 01/09/24

Bond payment paid January 1, 2024

Interest:

Water Fund, in the amount of \$4,671.88

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 \$ 94,436.03, starting with check number A28510, and

Water Fund, in the amount of \$ 3,168.95, starting with check number F3887, and

Sewer Fund, in the amount of \$ 14,343.32, starting with check number G6914, and

Sewer Collection Fund, in the amount of \$ 3,265.94, starting with check number 1081

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

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mallott: Yeah. Uh, again? I can't reiterate enough about what's happened out here as far as the ocean and as far as the flooding in the village. The. Let's talk about the beach first. The contractor for the Army Corps of Engineers, Great Lakes, was here last week and the week before. They've started the renourishment program on the beach. They're starting here in Ocean Beach and working east and west. Um, when they got wind of this storm, they took the boat and put their equipment as high as they could put it. And they took their boat, and they went back to, uh, the Hudson River in New York and stopped the project. Um. We lost a lot of sand from that renourishment. They're back here now working on the

beach. Um, they're trying to work out the logistics of more sand. Um, because the sand that they put up is a lot of it's missing. So, we hope hopefully they're going to replenish that sand that went missing from the storm and continue their work. East and west. Um.

Trustee Levine: Mr. Mayor. They're going to continue. And what was lost? You just said it. I think what they did already and was damaged, they're going to repair again. We hope. We hope okay.

Mayor Mallott: We don't know. We hope. It hasn't been defined yet. It's still a conversation that the Army Corps is having with Great Lakes. Um, and it's a pretty delicate situation because of the budget requirements that, uh, that the Army Corps has. But it's in negotiations. Obviously, we need to replenish the sand that they put up there. The groin, the two groins are covered. But there is no there's no dune up there yet. So we live in hope and we'll keep you apprised of the situation. Uh, as I said before, downtown here we're moving along with our with our, uh, drainage project. And, um, you'll be pleasantly surprised when you do come out here, the east end of town, from the sewer plant down to, uh, the Mermaid restaurant and Mermaid Market is moving along quite nicely. It should all be cemented by this time next week. Um, so be able to get to the freight boat down Ocean Breeze. And then the work will begin at the crossroads of Bayberry. And, uh, and as Kevin likes to say, Main Street USA. Um. So, we continue to be able to use the freight dock.

Mayor Mallott: Um, they're moving along. The schedule is going well. And as I said before, they promise us that it will be done. Uh, what else do we have? Uh, let me say the ferry contract. We're just dotting the I's and crossing the T's. Uh, it should be done. I should sign that lease, hopefully before the end of the week. The Monday is a holiday, so nothing gets done then. But, uh, Tuesday and Wednesday. The attorneys for both sides. Tell me that they're nearly done and I should have that lease to sign. I will sign the lease after the trustees have given me the okay to sign the lease. Um, as we've discussed it now, um, it seems all set to go. Uh, I can't say much more about it than that. Um. They are. We're still looking forward to having a multi-use tennis court area. Uh. Trustee Jen Morano has been working on it. Trustee Ian Levine has been working on it. So, I'll let them bring you guys up to date where we are with that. Jen, would you take over there?

Trustee Moritz: Sure. Um, we've been looking at, uh, surf multiple surfaces to come up with conducive to all sports on that, uh, area and coming up with designs. We currently have, uh, a meeting with the engineers to see what would be feasible for the multipurpose court and the wagon park for the areas to have access to, uh. Um, service, our, uh, new pumping station, as well as having our wagons in the same area. And we will keep you up to date on that.

Trustee Levine: Thanks, Jen. If I can just add a little bit. Um, first of all, I want to thank the 60 or 70 people that came to our zoom meeting that we had. Uh, it was a great attendance, and I think it was a very positive meeting. I think everybody walked away very positively. Uh, what we talked about at the meeting and the recap it real quick. We want to utilize the area the best it could be. We want it to be used all day long, not just in the mornings. And, uh, we think the best plan would be like Jen said. And the mayor said, a multi-purpose court, we are looking at a surface very similar to the basketball courts, uh, at the at the school, the basketball courts that are there are a, um, it's a layered, um, concrete or cement with, with rubber in it and it's better for the knees. It's conducive and can be used for all three, four sports that we're talking about. Uh, basketball, tennis, pickleball, soccer, whatever anybody else wants to play. I know, uh, Joe, our administrator, wants to play hockey there, so we'll maybe do that. Uh, we're looking to have it lined for all the sports, so it's very easy to switch from one sport to another. Uh, we are putting lights in, and, uh, it will be, uh, an addition to the bayfront here in Ocean Beach. And I think it'll be a very well used. And, uh, I think, uh, everybody in the village will benefit from it. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Joseph DiFrancisco: Thank you Mayor. Um, I want to. I'm not sure if anybody's had a chance to walk past the firehouse recently. Uh, but hopefully you if you have, you've noticed new garage doors. Uh, that project is, I guess, 99% complete. Um, we replaced all of the six garage doors with five new garage doors. And the reason for the reduction is that we, uh, expanded two doors, combined two doors into one to make an expanded entrance into the building to improve access. Uh, the last step in this process will be to, uh, uh, paint and spackle the interior of the building. So, if you have a chance to check out the firehouse, check out the new doors. Looks very nice. Um, obviously, I agree with everything the mayor said in regards to the stormwater project. We appreciate everybody's patience so far. Uh, and we're going to continue to need that patience as this project is going to come probably come down to the wire as we approach the summer. Um, lastly, I want to recognize Kevin Schelling for his work during the storm this past week. For those of you who don't know the first storm earlier in the week. Uh, the village was essentially inaccessible. The ferries didn't run in the morning. Uh, you

couldn't get here through the beach. You couldn't get here through the inside either. Uh, and so Kevin actually walked a couple of miles to get into the village. Uh, so he actually, you know, went way above and beyond. Uh. **Kevin Schelling:** Sure. **Trustee Moritz:** Thank you. Kevin. **Joseph DiFrancisco:** In addition, when the village lost power during the day, he assisted PSEG in restoring the power. In fact, he was recognized by PSEG and I was asked to pass on my thanks from PSEG to Kevin for that assistance. So, uh, thank you very much, Kevin. Thank you. Um, and that's all I have for now, mayor.

Mayor Mallott: Thank you. And let's recognize George has to for being here just because he couldn't leave anyway, there was no way for him to get out of here but. **Chief Hesse:** I slept in the kayak. **Mayor Mallott:** And all the buys. **Ken Gray:** He knows how to swim, doesn't he? **Chief Hesse:** I have my floaties on. Don't worry. **Mayor Mallott:** We've got, uh, is, uh. I have an inflatable boat in his budget. Uh, he wants, uh, that's. **Chief Hesse:** Oh, you have no idea what's going to. **Mayor Mallott:** It's no fun. Uh, let's move along. Kenny, please.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Kevin Schelling spoke

Wastewater: Sewer plant is fully operational.
Emergency Systems and Generator systems operational.
Chemical & Fuel supplies are full
The plant is pumping at maximum for the last 3-4 weeks

Water: Wells #2, #3 & #4 are operational
All Emergency Systems and Generator system operational
Chemical supplies & Fuel supplies full
Assisting contractor with the project removing pipes and capping for drainage project

Properties: Flooding & storms have caused damage to Village properties - Green, Docks, Playground, Beach
to the dock by the Bay beach has been damaged. The playground is a mess. The green is a mess. You know, I can go down the whole list, but everything is a mess.
Continuing clean-up of the streets, constantly cleaning the streets of the wood and debris floating around.
As Joe said, I helped PSE&G this week getting rid of the water in the substation.
Holiday decorations, what were left of them from the floods were removed from the green

Streets: Snow removal equipment ready
Sander put on the truck
Salt and sand stocked in garbage yard

Mayor Mallott: Thank you. Kevin, just to add to that, that. Kevin and George's report and Joe's report. Um, when you do come out here. Uh. Hopefully. This war has gone by the middle of the week. If we don't get this other Tuesday storm, it may be snow on Tuesday, so I don't know what it's going to look like. But when you do come out to your house, please be careful. Wear boots, don't bring the kids, don't bring the dog, you know, and be mindful when you go into your house. Check the gas tanks, okay? Make sure they're not floating on the side of the house. If they are floating on the side of the house, make sure you turn them off. You should check your electricity when you come in. Um, and turn it off at the main when you leave. I know a lot of people have cameras, and if you don't turn the main off, just turn everything else off except the cameras so you can see what's going on in, in and around your house. Um, and just be mindful of walking through this water. As Kevin said, the sewer plant is working and it's pumping, but there's a lot of water in town and we. You don't know what's in that water. So. Please be cautious. And again, there's not only water here. There's water in Bay Shore too. It's on Maple Avenue. It's at the ferry terminal. It's in the parking lot. I'm sure today it's ankle deep over there in the parking lot. So, it's a dangerous situation. If you can wait, then wait. You know that couch that got wet or those beds that got wet or that refrigerator that got wet? It can wait. Do you have to throw it out of the house when you come out? The village has to come up with some plan to get rid of all of the carpets and couches and beds that get wet.

Mayor Mallott: Once they get outside your house, that's a plan that we're trying to work on now. We're trying to do it in-house, because the last time we went through this in Sandy, it took us three months to get rid of the garbage, and I can't go through that again. I think we would probably try and do it with maybe private carters, uh, removing the debris and, uh, you know, we, the village would pay for that. And then I'll try and get reimbursed from the feds. But like garbage removal, I don't know what that consists of. I don't know what the price would be, but obviously we obviously we know that the garbage has got to go and uh, and we'll be working on it. So please, again, just be careful when you come out, don't do anything silly and start lighting fires in the fireplace. Fire is still our biggest hazard out here. I don't even like to talk about fires. And I get bad looks from Marty sitting in the back row there and George sitting in the front row here talking about fires. We don't usually talk about it, but I want you to be aware of. The problems that we have here now, and fighting the fire would be the ultimate problem. So with that, uh, Kenny, let's move on. You're going to read.

Trustee Moritz: Can I just add a little something. Yes. The propane tanks, if they are floating, they should be chained to your house because it is a danger, you know, and that's properly how they're supposed to be installed. So if you need to be chained, you know, let's get them chained because your problem is not okay.

Trustee Arment: Uh, also a quick clerical thing. We hit the zoom participant limit, which I didn't even know there was one. So this is a record. I just raised it. Um, so sorry, I spent \$50 bucks. Uh, we'll deal with that later. Um, in the meantime, if anybody was locked out, I think it should have raised it for this meeting in progress as well. So, if you were locked out, you can try to rejoin now. Or if you know anyone who was, you can tell them that. Thanks. Yeah.

Mayor Mallott: Yeah look, and see if we need a few more. **Trustee Arment:** Okay. It's on the village's card, not mine.

Ken Gray: So, Kevin, you gave your report, right? Yes, sir. All right, so, uh, fire department report, if any.

OCEAN BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Levine spoke

Chief Hesse: Yeah. Uh, well, pretty much everybody, uh, stole my thunder here at the table, you know, talking about emergency management and stuff like that. But, uh, the mayor is right about one thing. Uh, if you're going to come out and, uh, and secure your home, please have the proper, uh, gear. Wear the proper gear. I'm watching people get off the ferry and take their shoes and socks off to walk through the stuff, and there's so much debris and stuff floating around. Screws, nails, boards, you name it, it's in the water. You can't see it. It's almost knee deep here in town even today. Uh, but, um, yeah, we had a rough go the last couple of weeks, so, um, uh, we're making it through. Um, and I'm glad you're here. **Mayor Mallott:** Uh, the, uh, county executive came over.

Chief Hesse: Yeah, yeah. So, uh, the County Executive came over. I'm sure everybody saw the news. Uh, channel 12, news day, channel 2 CBS. Uh, the county exec and his entourage came out, assessed the damage with the mayor in us. Uh, we talked about a few things, and, uh, he's got our back, uh, you know, uh, politically, hopefully he's begging for, uh, some money, some funds to help, uh, you know, secure the beachfront. And, uh, what we got going on in town. Um, we're still doing our assessments. Uh, there's a lot of damage. A lot of houses are flooded. Uh, a lot of the businesses are flooded. Uh, so the mayor's not kidding about, you know, worrying about fires, electrical fires. Um, you know, I don't want to be the bearer of bad news, but, uh, this is what we have to deal with. And we're here, and we're very limited in, uh, capacity with manpower and stuff. So, whatever we could all do to work together to curtail some of those issues would be great. And if anybody needs help with that, just please call. I mean, uh, you know, I feel like this is almost a Sandy event that we're going to go around and start red stickering houses to say they're unsafe. But, uh, I don't want to get to that point. Um, I want folks to come out and secure their homes. Um, anyway, uh, enough, uh, gloom and doom. Uh, after the last meeting, we had our, uh, Santa Claus and our Tree Lighting and our Potluck dinner. Uh, it was fantastic. I think that was the most amount of people I've ever seen attend that event. It went, uh, went very well. Um, it was a lot of fun.

Trustee Levine: I've already started practicing the singing for next year, George. **Trustee Moritz:** We hope so. **Chief Hesse:** I really hope so. **Ken Gray:** You need a lot of practice. **Chief Hesse:** Uh, no. But it was great. And I thank everyone for their help. Everyone here, even at this table, participated. And, uh. **Mayor Mallott:** Even at this.

Chief Hesse: Even at this table, even you even you were out there singing. I saw, you know, it was great. It was a great event. Uh, anyway, um, you know, the firehouse, uh, we took about a foot of water. Uh, we lost a bunch of equipment. Uh, those are things I got to discuss with the board. Uh, on the side. Um. We were busy. We were busy, uh, even though,

uh, we put everything up, it wasn't high enough. You know, we never had that much water in the firehouse since Sandy. So, uh, a lot of cleanup, and we're still, uh, airing it out and cleaning up today. Um, we have three new recruits in and attending firefighter 1, so we'll have three new firefighters hopefully by May. Uh, at the end of this year, we handled 325 calls. We're very busy this year. Uh, one of the things I don't like talking about are the false alarms. They were up this year. We had 58 of them. And even during the day of the storm, we had two. We had two. We had to go out in that storm and uh, and assess and, and, and take care of those issues and be aware. Tickets are being issued. Um, and that's really it on the fire department side, uh, we're pretty much ready and ready to respond with what we have.

OCEAN BEACH POLICE REPORT: Chief Hesse spoke

Chief Hesse: Um, on the police department side, uh, it's pretty much, uh, much of the same, you know, we're just, uh, we're assessing every day. Um, we kept some extra manpower on just in case, uh, anyone needed some help. Um, Michael Mills stayed over, and, uh, so it's going to be a little overtime in that, but, uh, he had to stay. Uh, we couldn't really get guys on and off the beach.

Mayor Mallott: We've been pretty isolated, that's for sure. **Chief Hesse**: Yeah. No problem. We were cut off. You know, Robbins rest. That's a it's a real tough spot. So, uh. **Mayor Mallott**: There was a wash over in, uh, in in, uh. Robbins Rest. **Chief Hesse**: Yeah. Robbins Rest. We even had a flood day for the school instead of most of the, uh, world gets a snow day. We get flood days. So the school took off. Um, I'm in constant contact with Travis, uh, just assessing what's going on, and we decided to cancel school on Wednesday. **Mayor Mallott**: We've seen a couple of reports of, uh, breaches in the newspapers. They're using the wrong word. Okay. What they're called is wash overs. A breach is something that separates the two pieces of land. **Chief Hesse**: Like old inlet. **Mayor Mallott**: With water flowing through it. **Chief Hesse**: The problem we had, uh, out east. Yeah. Like that. That's a breach. **Mayor Mallott**: That's a breach. What we've had is wash overs, and those wash houses are closed up right now. **Trustee Levine**: I think a wash over becomes a breach after 2 or 3 consecutive tide cycles. If it stays for more than 2 or 3 cycles then it becomes a breach. **Chief Hesse**: Yeah. It's a constant flow of water. **Trustee Levine**: And like the mayor just said. **Mayor Mallott**: Well, let's not define breach. **Mayor Mallott**: Let's not get into an argument over the definition of what's a breach **Trustee Levine**: It was a wash over. **Mayor Mallott**: Thank you. We use the word wash over the mayor.

Chief Hesse: Excuse me. Yes, sir. Uh, OEMs calling me. So I'm going to take this call. It's in relative to the storm. Okay. I'm done. Thank you. **Mayor Mallott**: Thank you. Chief. **Trustee Moritz**: Thank you. George. **Mayor Mallott**: Okay Kenny SEQRA, **Ken Gray**: All right. Good. So, um, I'm assuming Jill is not on this call. Do we have. I don't know if we have any lifeguard report because lifeguards are not up and operating right now, but I just wanted to know. What's that? **Mayor Mallott**: There's no beach. **Ken Gray**: Yeah, yeah. No, no, no, I, I know, I just wanted to give her the respect and the opportunity if she had something to say.

Mayor Mallott: Thank you. Kenny. **Ken Gray**: Okay. Um if. **Mayor Mallott**: We don't, we don't know if she gets through. Then we'll listen to it. Let's move along. **Ken Gray**: Okay, so then, uh, additions and deletions to the agenda. I don't know of any, um, I think we're up to item number ten, which is the, uh, SEQRA declaration. **Josephe DiFrancisco**: Uh. Ken, hold on. There is an addition to the agenda. Oh, I don't I don't know, can you **Trustee Moritz**: It's number 14. **Jonneigh Adrion**: Yeah, it's item number 14 to authorize and approve the attendance at the 96th New York Water Association's annual meeting. **Ken Gray**: Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't. Okay. And who's attending that? Kevin. And, uh? **Jonneigh Adrion**: Kevin and Richie. **Ken Gray**: All right. **Mayor Mallott**: Is it not here on 14? Isn't that 14? Is that an addition? **Chief Hesse**: Yes, yes. **Trustee Moritz**: Yes, it's an authorized an approval to attend. **Kevin Schelling**: It's \$206 a person plus transportation.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: Resolution No. 2024-003: Trustee Arment moved as follows:

1. Add Item #14 – Authorize & Approve Attendance at 96TH NYWEA Annual Meeting

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

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA): Resolution No. 2024-004: Trustee Arment 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 Levine seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

ACCEPT ASSESSOR'S REPORT 2024-2025: Resolution No. 2024-005: Mayor Mallott moved follows:

WHEREAS, the Village of Ocean Beach's Assessor will prepare the Assessor's Report, setting the Assessments as of February 1, 2024,

Now, therefore, it is hereby

RESOLVED that the Village of Ocean Beach will accept the Assessor's Report, submitted by Paul Petruzzelli, Village Assessor, after review by Linda Morrisey, Village Treasurer, for the year 2024-2025.

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

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

NOTICE OF TAX SALE FOR UNPAID TAXES: Resolution No. 2024-006: Mayor Mallott moved follows:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach, County of Suffolk, and State of New York, passed at a meeting thereof held on the 13th day of January, 2024, the undersigned Village Treasurer of the said Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach will sell tax liens at public auction, in the manner provided by law, on the 1st day of March, 2024 at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon of that day and on succeeding days, at the office of the Treasurer of the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach in the Village Office at Cottage and Bay Walk in the Village of Ocean Beach, New York, so much of each of the following parcels of real estate upon which Village taxes remain unpaid as will be sufficient to discharge the tax, interest and charges thereon, which may be due at the time of sale.

Each purchaser at such tax sale may pay the amount listed to the Village Treasurer within ten (10) days of the sale, and upon such payment, the Treasurer shall give to the purchaser a certificate in writing describing the real property purchased and the sum paid therefore.

The following is a list of the parcels that will have liens on the property once the liens are sold; followed by a statement of the amount of the base tax, not including applicable interest and charges:

<u>Item no.</u>	<u>Property Owner</u>	<u>Amount Descriptions</u>	<u>Amounts</u>
31280	PSEGLI Property Tax Department 999 Stewart Avenue Bethpage, NY 11714 Wires & Cables	Taxes: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024) Total Due:	\$ 386.18 60.00 50.20 \$ 496.38
31285	PSEGLI Property Tax Department 999 Stewart Avenue Bethpage, NY 11714	Taxes: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024)	\$ 900.88 60.00 117.11

	Wires & Cables	Total Due:	\$ 1,077.99
31320	PSEGLI Property Tax Department 999 Stewart Avenue Bethpage, NY 11714 Wires & Cables	Taxes: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024) Total Due:	\$19,674.70 60.00 <u>2,557.72</u> \$22,292.41
731970	Steven & Marion Himes PO Box 46 Ocean Beach, NY 11770 99-100 Bungalow Walk	Taxes: Utility Charges: Unpaid Refuse: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024): Total Due:	\$5,032.00 2,327.25 546.00 60.00 <u>1,027.68</u> \$8,992.93
733290	Elliso Holdings, Inc c/o David Ostrove 329 Arcadia Drive West Islip, NY 11795 386-387 Dehnhoff Walk	Taxes: Utility Charges: Unpaid Refuse: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024) Total Due:	\$8,874.43 2,850.22 546.00 60.00 <u>1,595.18</u> \$13,925.83
736600	Fox Head Realty c/o Lawrence & Judith Fox 420 Doral Drive Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 135-136 Ocean Road	Taxes: Utility Charges: Unpaid Refuse: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024) Total Due:	\$4,984.63 2,320.80 546.00 60.00 <u>1,020.68</u> \$8,932.11
737381	BND Street Investors, Inc. David Ostrove 329 Arcadia Drive West Islip, NY 11795 311-312 Wilmot Road	Taxes: Utility Charges: Unpaid Refuse: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024) Total Due:	\$4,874.09 2,305.76 546.00 60.00 <u>1,004.36</u> \$8,790.21
737452	Bayview Rentals Inc. c/o David Ostrove 329 Arcadia Drive West Islip, NY 11795 329-332 Bay Walk	Taxes: Utility Charges: Unpaid Refuse: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024) Total Due:	\$2,105.44 1,928.93 546.00 60.00 <u>595.45</u> \$5,235.82
737470	Triangle Properties F.I. Inc. c/o David Ostrove 329 Arcadia Drive West Islip, NY 11795 335-337 Surf Road	Taxes: Utility Charges: Unpaid Refuse: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024) Total Due:	\$11,106.20 3,153.97 546.00 60.00 <u>1,924.80</u> \$16,790.97

737480	TD Partners Equity, Inc. c/o David & Terese Ostrove 329 Arcadia Drive West Islip, NY 11795 338 1/2-339 Surf Road	Taxes: Utility Charges: Unpaid Refuse: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024) Total Due:	\$9,302.36 2,908.46 546.00 60.00 <u>1,658.39</u> \$14,475.21
787650	Reliance Globalcom Svcs. 1801 Peachtree Street Atlanta, GA 30309 Wires & Cables	Taxes: Advertising: Interest (13% to 3/1/2024): Total Due:	\$ 47.00 60.00 <u>6.11</u> \$ 113.11

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

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

AUTHORIZATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MINOR BEHAVIOR LEGISLATION: Resolution No. 2024-007: Trustee Levine moved follows:

WHEREAS, the Village of Ocean Beach reviews certain codes and makes changes from time to time by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Ocean Beach would like to introduce and have a public hearing for new Minor Behavior legislation;

Now, therefore, it is hereby

RESOLVED that the Village Clerk shall schedule and publish notice of a Public Hearings for Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 11:30 am for the purpose of adopting a new chapter on minor behavior.

Mayor Mallott seconded the motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

Mayor Mallott: Uh, I don't know if we're ready to. We want to set a public hearing for March, is that what we're doing?
Trustee Levine: Yes, mayor that's what we're doing. That's what, that's right. **Mayor Mallott:** I guess we can do it. Um.
Trustee Arment: What is the public hearing on? Can you go into that a little bit? **Trustee Levine:** It's to give the police a little bit more, uh, legislation that they can handle the minors and the behavior of the minors a little better. Am I saying that right, George? **Trustee Moritz:** George is not here. **Chief Hesse:** Yeah. No, I came back, I snuck back in. Thanks. Uh, yeah. And it also makes, uh, the parents a little more responsible. It'll give us an option for anyone under 18 that is unsupervised and acting out that we can actually write the parents a ticket also. **Mayor Mallott:** Okay, we'll be ready for that public hearing in March. Yeah. Gives it enough time to go through it now. **Chief Hesse:** Um, I got to talk to Ken a little more. We got to clarify a few things. **Mayor Mallott:** Then we'll talk about it in public, and hopefully we'll have something. **Chief Hesse:** He'll write the legislation and then we'll be good to go. **Mayor Mallott:** We can vote on it. **Chief Hesse:** Yeah, we got a couple make a couple more word changes okay. **Mayor Mallott:** So moved on the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING #1

OPEN TIME: 12:01 PM – Mayor/Levine

CLOSING TIME: 12:08 PM – Arment/Levine

Notes:

Ken Gray: All right. So the public hearing is set and I believe we circulated the, uh, proposed legislation. **Mayor Mallott:** All right. Good. **Ken Gray:** We have a public hearing actually scheduled today, mayor, for the tax cap override for 2024. **Mayor Mallott:** Correct. **Ken Gray:** So if we can have a motion to open that public hearing. **Mayor Mallott:** Motion to open. **Ken Gray:** Second. **Trustee Arment:** Second. **Ken Gray:** Okay. All in favor?

Ken Gray: Okay. So the public hearing is open. And again and I've said this. Numerous times. This is simply a mechanism that if the village needs or determines that they need to override the cap that is set by the state. That they are authorized to do so when they're setting the budget. It's not. We're not we're not overriding. We're not setting anything with respect to the budget at this point. It just. And I'll use the word I've said it a thousand times. It gives them an extra tool in their tool bag in case they need to. So, with that said, I'll turn it over to the mayor and whatever you need.

Mayor Mallott: Yeah. Uh, I think you explained it very well, Ken. We've been doing it for a long time now. This is a cautionary, uh, like I make a motion. To that fact. **Trustee Arment:** Do you have to have the hearing first? **Mayor Mallott:** Uh, yeah. You can listen to the public first if anyone's got anything to say about it. **Trustee Arment:** Uh, anyone in person first before we go to zoom. I know we have a big crowd here today. No. All right. Um, so zoom the person, uh, named iPhone. You've had your hand up for a very long time. Is it related to this? If so, go ahead. **Speaker:** Sorry, I think that was an error. **Trustee Arment:** No problem. All right. Uh, Dave Lipsky, your next go ahead.

Trustee Arment: Dave? You there? **David Lipsky:** I'm here. Can you hear me. **Trustee Arment:** Yes. Now we can go ahead. **David Lipsky:** Sorry. I'm not opposed to overriding the tax cap, but I'm wondering if there's. Uh, any way to bound the limit of a possible override without further discussion. And now with all of the projects that we have going, uh. I'm concerned that there be some control on how much of an override would be allowed. **Mayor Mallott:** How much of an overlap would be allowed? **Trustee Arment:** Is it set? Is it bounded or not? **Mayor Mallott:** No, there's no limit. **Ken Gray:** Yeah. So the issue with if we bust the cap. For lack of a better word, it's going to be subject to the budget hearing that we're going to have. So, you'll have conversation and you'll have input into what the budget would be. But right now. Um, there's not a method or mechanism to limit what the override may or may not be. But that that'll happen during the budget conversations. Yep.

David Lipsky: Ak thank you. **Trustee Arment:** All right. Uh, Maria. Go ahead. **Maria Silsdorf:** Uh, good morning all. Thank you. So, um, we have this public hearing every year. I understand it's part of the budgeting process. Uh, and appreciate it. In the past, when this public hearing has been held, the mayor has spoken of his intentions. Um, and the last three years, he spoke of and managed to present a budget, uh, along with the board and the clerk and so on. And the treasurer that did not, um, add a tax increase. Can we perhaps get a preview of what the intention is at this point? **Mayor Mallott:** Uh, my intention is to keep the taxes as low as I possibly can. I, the village in good financial shape. We have a lot of money in the general fund. Probably more than we should have in the general fund. Um, we're not looking at a substantial tax raise at the moment. Um, if I was to hazard a guess at a top number, it would probably be 5%, and a lower number would be less than a 2%. Does that answer your question? **Ken Gray:** Mayor. **Maria Silsdorf:** It does, it does. I like the less than 2% better, but of course it doesn't answer it. **Ken Gray:** Mayor, can I jump in for a second? **Mayor Mallott:** Yes, please. I'm saying too much. **Ken Gray:** Yeah, of course, but, uh. **Chief Hesse:** Always. **Ken Gray:** Maria, how are you? **Maria Silsdorf:** I'm good. Ken. Thank you.

Ken Gray: Good. Thanks. So as, as you, you know, must know from your, you know, your corporate experience what the mayor is doing is he's asking the head of all of his departments to submit their proposals, um, and their recommendations for what they want, what they envision in the next year. And those have financial consequences. And then the mayor and Joe DeFrancisco will look at them, make determinations as to what is viable, what's not viable, and what is financially responsible. So, I mean, to ask, I mean, I'm just saying to ask the mayor now what he anticipates. Um, I think that's a little premature because we're just getting into the, the they are they the board are just getting into the fiscal review of what the proposals are. So that's all I wanted to say there. **Mayor Mallott:** Stand by your beds. That's the word. Okay. Thank you. Let's move on. Anybody else got questions on the tax cap? **Trustee Arment:** Uh, Maria, your hand still up? Are you done with this public hearing? Yeah. Okay. **Maria Silsdorf:** Lowered my hand. Thank you. **Trustee Arment:** That's it. So motion to close. Public hearing.

ACCEPT & APPROVE LOCAL LAW 01 OF 2024 TO AMEND CHAPTER 6, SECTIONS 6-1 THROUGH 6-5 –

TAX CAP OVERRIDE FOR 2024: Resolution No. 2024-008: Mayor Mallott moved follows:

BE IT ENACTED, by the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach, to adopt a local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c, as follows:

1. Chapter 6, Sections 6-1 through 6-5 are hereby created to read as follows:

Chapter 6

REAL PROPERTY TAX LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE

§ 6 - 1. Legislative Intent

§ 6 - 2. Authority

§ 6 - 3. Tax Levy Limit Override.

§ 6 - 4. Severability.

§ 6 - 5. NYSEQRA.

§ 6 - 6. Effective date.

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to allow the Village of Ocean Beach to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government’s governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Ocean Beach, County of Suffolk, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 4. Severability

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court’s order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (NYSEQRA)

The Board of Trustees hereby declares the adoption of this Local Law a Type II action, pursuant to the NYSEQRA and, therefore, no further environmental review is required.

Section 6. Effective date

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

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

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

AUTHORIZATION & APPROVAL TO ATTEND 96TH NEW YORK WATER ASSOCIATION (NYWEA) 2024 ANNUAL MEETING: Resolution No. 2024-009: Trustee Levine moved follows:

WHEREAS, it is the Inc. Village of Ocean Beach's desire to give encouragement to its employees, in an effort to gain knowledge and improve proficiency in their village positions, and training programs are essential concerning pertinent updates and changes and to facilitate the Village in regard to municipal law, government operations and local finance issues;

Now, therefore, it is hereby,

RESOLVED that Kevin Schelling, Superintendent of Public Works and Richard Schelling, Wastewater Plant Manager, are authorized to attend NYWEA 2023 Annual Symposium in New York, NY on February 5th – 7th, 2024, costs to include \$200 class registration, meals, lodging and travel expenses each, to be paid from the following line items F8340.493

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

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS: 12:09

Ken Gray: All right. Motion carries. Uh, I believe we're at the hearing of the citizens now. **Trustee Arment:** Once again the large, in-person crowd. If you have any? Uh. **Joseph DiFrancisco:** Lenny's stepping up to the mic. **Chief Hesse:** I think there's one person in the audience. **Ken Gray:** I was going to say, that's what I'm saying, who's in the audience? Is there Anybody. **Lenny Aronica:** Hi, I'm Lenny Aronica. Hi. Uh, so the question is, is what provisions are in the contract we signed for those water projects or the, I guess, to keep the flooding in downtown. Off cost overruns.

Mayor Mallott: Off cost overruns. **Lenny Aronica:** Yes. **Mayor Mallott:** Yeah, well, you know, we go into contract with the contractor that's all spelled out in the contract. And so, you know, it's something that's decided as we get to the end of the contract to see how much money, any change orders, uh, you know, there's going to be discussions between this contractor and his contractors. You know, the village pretty much stays out of that stuff, obviously. **Lenny Aronica:** I'm sorry. I didn't mean to interrupt you **Mayor Mallott:** If we need a change order. Um, it's an agreement between everybody and the EFC, which gives us the money. To do this project. We have to go to them. They have to agree to a change order, agree to pay it, and we'll see what the bottom line is when we get there. It's like you building your house. You know what I mean? It's not much different. So, the contractor says this. Yeah. You say okay. Then he comes back to you and says, oh, by the way, we got to do this. Well, the first thing you say is, well, you told me to. It's that kind of negotiation.

Lenny Aronica: Well, obviously these guys have gone through two storms, which have been pretty bad storms. So I'm assuming there's going to be some cost overrides here, right? **Mayor Mallott:** All right, we'll see, we'll see. **Lenny Aronica:** Um. Are the taxpayers of Ocean Beach totally on the hook for that or it's subsidized by other entities. **Mayor Mallott:** Well, there's grant money for this project and then there's bond money for this project. When this project is over, we'll see how much money we owe. And then we'll go out and bond that money over probably 30 years, which is, uh, a no interest loan from the EFC. Um. And then we'll know what the tax consequences are going to be on that. As I said before. This board, the previous board and the board before that, have been saving money to alleviate the pain that's going to come when we have to pay this too. **Lenny Aronica:** Okay, **Mayor Mallott:** so a lot of it is built into the taxes already. And then when you look at what else we've got going on, because we have some bond issues that are going to be paid off, I think the next one is 2028. It's, um, a little more than \$200,000. Those two bonds, which was for cement. So that bond will come up, that money is in the budget. So. it'll just kick forward into this project too. **Lenny Aronica:** Okay. Okay. Thank you. **Mayor Mallott:** All right.

Trustee Arment: All right. Any other in person you want to come up? **Carlos Vega:** Is this general questions now? **Trustee Arment:** Yeah. Come on up to the mic if you can, though, Carlos. Thanks. **Carlos Vega:** So, this mitigation that we're doing right now sounds like it's mostly for the town, not residential.

Mayor Mallott: Well, this is the way we look at it okay. When there's a flood, when there's a lot of rain. You know, you live here. You've been here as long as I've been here. The water comes up through the ground. Okay? When it comes up through the ground, it comes this way. It comes north because this is the lowest part of the town, right? So, the idea is to take that water as it flows down here and get it out of the storm drains. Right now, the entire project is supposed to go from. Uh. The pantry. To the sewer plant.

Carlos Vega: Okay, so there's where my where I'm going to. So, years ago, I came to a meeting and I spoke about the village. Not intentionally, I don't think, Burning up the end of Surf Road, you know, we. Wait, wait, let me finish, please. **Mayor Mallott:** You know we raised that. **Carlos Vega:** I know. Let me finish. Please let me finish. And that's the way the village would drain, because I remember as a kid, that's when we launched boats. They put a pipe in there, which is great for letting the water out, but it comes in directly in also on this kind of thing. Now, I propose that we put a valve on there so we could shut it off so the water doesn't come in. We could turn it on, open it so that the water goes out. And I know I just did it this morning I took a piece of plywood that was right there by the side, and I stuck it on the end. I put a piece of okay, but a simple valve and then but beyond it,

Mayor Mallott: We don't know anything about it. **Carlos Vega:** We need a second pipe. **Mayor Mallott:** We don't know anything about it. **Carlos Vega:** Okay? In the middle of the night when I was walking in my sleep. **Mayor Mallott:** Don't even say it out loud. **Chief Hesse:** It's scary. **Trustee Levine:** Carlos, I believe that they're there. The village is looking at a phase two of the project, which will hopefully rectify down at that end. And with the county executive coming out to Ocean Beach and seeing that during his campaign, he talked a lot. And he even mentioned it afterwards that there is money available from the state that Suffolk County wasn't a part of. And he assured us that he's going to try to get Suffolk County into that. So, there will be more money and we can do phase two, which will be the west end of the business district, all the way to Surf. **Mayor Mallott:** And the check's in the mail. Let's not talk about anything like that, please. It's. Not for, uh. **Trustee Arment:** Uh. Janet. Einig. Go ahead. **Trustee Moritz:** Janet? **Trustee Arment:** Janet, are you there? All right, we'll come back to you. Maria, your hands up. Go ahead.

Maria Silsdorf: Yes. Um. Hi. Um, first of all, as the president of the Ocean Beach Association, I did want to announce that we have scheduled our winter meeting via zoom, and that will be on Tuesday, March 19th at 7 p.m.. Uh, we have our winter meeting via zoom. We have our summer meeting in June in person at the community house, but we look forward to seeing everyone. Tuesday, March 19th, 7 p.m. on zoom. Zoom. Rather, you can come here, your community leaders and your elected officials. Uh, and we'll be publishing an agenda in advance of that date. So, thank you. As Maria Silsdorf myself, I did have a few questions. You've spoken extensively about the flooding, um, and the ocean project. Um, but in light of what's happening the last two storms and the flooding, that certainly exceeds what those of us who have been on Fire Island our whole lives. For me, which is 62 years, um, we're seeing flooding like never before. The great South Bay is higher. The flooding on the south shore of Long Island is historic. Should we be looking at something beyond the current project and perhaps expediting the second half of the project, which both Jimmy and Ian mentioned? Um, as well as taking a fresh look at what could potentially be done on the residential streets. Um, I appreciate everything that those of you there have gone through, um, Kevin and George and everyone else. Um, but it feels like just continuing with status quo in terms of projects isn't enough at this time. And perhaps there's an opportunity to be bigger and bolder. Perhaps in concert with the other Fire Island communities and the south shore of Long Island. So that's number one.

Ken Gray: Can I can I ask a question, Mr. Mayor? **Mayor Mallott:** Yes, sir. **Ken Gray:** Miss. Miss. Mrs. Silsdorf. What do you recommend? What do you recommend? **Maria Silsdorf:** I don't have a recommended recommendation at this point, Ken. Um, but I think talking it's not for me to recommend. Um, I'm not a scientist. **Ken Gray:** Okay. I'm. I'm just I'm just saying that, you know, people always are asking for additional stuff, and. **Maria Silsdorf:** I'm asking you to explore additional stuff, and I'm asking the board. I'm not really asking you, Ken. I'm asking the board. I think we should be looking to explore different options? I mean, I'm happy to get personally involved, but it feels like there's an opportunity here.

Trustee Arment: No, I you're so just to address this a little bit a little bit, you know, bring the heat level down a little bit here. Um, look, we live on a barrier island in the wake of massive climate change coming, I think this is going to be something that we are just going to continually be fighting for the rest of our lives. So, it's not a question of should we be doing more? The of course, I think we will always be doing more. We will always need to be doing more, and we will just have to be doing large projects over time, probably continuously into the future to continue to do this. And, you know, that's not to say that that anything we're doing now is, is, you know, supposed to solve everything forever. I think that's

that's unrealistic. We live in a very challenging climate environment. So, this is going to be continual work indefinitely. And we are all ears on what that work can be. But a lot of it is just going to, you know, we'll have to get to it one thing at a time as we get funding and as we get opportunities to do it.

Mayor Mallott: And the other thing is, you know, this, um storm relief project that we're doing down here was just the beginning of replacing the sewer lines. We had to do this in order to even contemplate one of the next major things that we have to do, which is replace the sewer lines. I mean, that's a this is a building a pyramid. But replacing the sewer lines is building ten pyramids. Uh, it's a tremendous task. And again, you know, you talk about taxes, you want to keep it down below 2%. You know, the job can't get done unless everybody's willing to ante up and play for pay for these things that need to be done. Of course, we'll always and forever. Uh, research grants and hope for help from the feds and hope for help from the state. But sooner or later, you know, everybody's going to throw their hands up here when that is, I don't know. But, you know, this is a \$15 million project. This is the biggest project we've taken on here, you know, and we started out in Sandy and we spent a lot of money there, close to close to \$30 million I think we've spent since Sandy. We got \$27 million of it back from the feds, which is not a bad return for the amount of work that got done. A new well, uh, a new Windswept, a new ferry, a new ferry terminal, um, millions of dollars in the office, millions of dollars at the sewer plant, millions and millions of dollars. And as Marco says, and as we read in every newspaper, anybody that's got any sense and anybody that lives here knows that global warming is upon us. And it's a doomsday scenario for everybody. But rest assured, as long as I'm here, I'll be doing the best that I can to keep this place viable.

Maria Silsdorf: So please, please don't throw your hands up. And the, uh, everything is very much appreciated. Um, I did have a quick second question on the wagon park. **Mayor Mallott:** Don't ask to lower taxes, and I won't throw my hands up. Okay. **Maria Silsdorf:** Yeah, I appreciate that. And we don't want you to, um, the wagon park, uh, you mentioned, um. Can, do you know at this point what the plans are for the wagon park?

Mayor Mallott: We're working on it. Jen and Ian, and again, somebody else who comes out of the woodwork every time we have a problem and works for nothing. Joel Silverberg is helping. I'm sure Constantine's got his oar in the water. The volunteers that, uh, that again. Come, uh, come down to help the village. We can't thank them enough. And we appreciate their work. And, uh, they're working with, uh, with our trustees now trying to come up with a good plan, a sensible plan and a something that fits everybody. **Maria Silsdorf:** Sounds good. Thank you.

Trustee Arment: All right. Janet Einig. Go ahead. **Janet Einig:** Hi. Happy New Year to all. Thank you. Why have you mentioned more than once that the groins jetty were being removed? And today that you're saying they're covered by sand again? **Mayor Mallott:** Yeah. The money to remove the jetties is not in this program. This is part of the FIMP. Uh, FIMI project, fire Island to Moriches Inlet. That was the last project to put sand on the beach. And this is a renourishment of that program. The money to remove the jetties is in the FIMP project, which is Fire Island to Montauk Point. Which is in the works. Um, as we speak, you know, obviously, these storms and the damage that happens here shakes everybody up in Washington again. And, uh, you know, it really needs to be done. We're a barrier island here. We know it. This is what happens. We're the first line of defense for the south shore of Long Island. Washington knows, everybody knows, that if Fire Island is not maintained. In the next beachfront property will be on Sunrise Highway. And that's not a joke. So, we live and hope that the project will start and that, uh, in the, uh, feds plan, those jetties will come out. We will have another well by then so that those wells up on the ocean will be abandoned and the village will be in good shape with two new wells and one backup. Well. **Janet Einig:** Thank you. One other question. Why is it all over the news that the Army Corps of Engineers is not doing any work on Fire Island when they're currently working in Ocean Beach? I'm a little confused.

Mayor Mallott: It's a question of funding, Janet. Okay. What was funded was to go from the west end of Saltaire to I Street in Seaview. That was the funding that the Army Corps of Engineers had. That was the project that they were given. Now the Army Corps of Engineers awards that project to Great Lakes, they tell. Great lakes. Okay. Go from here to here. When you're done there, you have to go to Montauk, because anything east of High Street all the way down to Davis Park is not funded at the moment. And that is the argument that we hope, uh, Senator Schumer is having for us now in Washington, trying to get, uh, funds to, uh, renourish that part of the program.

Trustee Levine: Mr. mayor, isn't it true that, um, the project that's being worked on right now was put on the books like 2 or 3 years ago? **Mayor Mallott:** And, yeah, it was funded a while ago. **Trustee Levine:** Yeah. So, Janet, what happens is we have damage, we put it in, they have to go through the whole process. They plan out the project, they find the money

for it, they put it out to bid. And it takes time to get it. And that's why the. I don't even remember what the storm was that that caused the damage. But it was a long time ago. The storm that caused the damage on the eastern end of Fire Island, which they're complaining about now, is a more recent storm. And it's already, you know, the next move from here is, like Jimmy just said to Montauk, and that's where they have to be. They can't just stop and say, we're going to do something in the middle. I mean, I'd like them to, and they should, but that's where their next move is. So they have to put that on the books. They have to get the funding for it, and then they'll come back and do that section unfortunately. **Janet Einig:** Okay. Thank you. So we're lucky right now. **Mayor Mallott:** Thanks, Janet. **Trustee Levine:** Yes we are. **Janet Einig:** Thank you.

Trustee Arment: All right, uh, Judy Steinman. Uh. Oh. Sorry, Judy. One second. **Trustee Moritz:** I would just like to make a little announcement. Walking to the ferry terminal and Maple Avenue is next to impossible. So, you need to call and dress appropriately, because they are underwater and all the way Maple Avenue and the terminal. So please call the ferry terminal and make sure that the ferries are running and dress appropriately, because you'll be soaked by the time you get over here.

Trustee Arment: Yeah. And you know, also don't forget about, you know, your car and its health as well in this. Um, anyway, so yeah. Judy, first of all, Judy, thank you you're the one who alerted me that the zoom was full earlier, so I was able to fix that. So thank you. Uh, go ahead. Judy. **Judy Steinman:** Thank you. Um, Marco, I assume you can hear me. **Trustee Arment:** Yes. **Judy Steinman:** Good. Um, I want to come back to Maria's question about projects being done on Fire Island. Um, you may recall, some of you will, that the Fire Island Association was very, very instrumental in the writing of two projects. One, the first one FIMI and the second one, FIMP. Now, FIMP hasn't really started. It's Fire Island to Montauk Point, so in FIMI there's a great deal being done on the mainland as well as on Fire Island for me though, which is still, I guess drawing money from the feds has provisions for emergency repairs. And it's not clear to me because I haven't really read the text recently, but it seems to me that some of the things that have happened in the past, past month, these horrible storms that have come through and caused huge amounts of damage to our dunes, these events, repair of them is probably eligible under the emergency provisions of FIMI. I know that's confusing. It is to me too, but I believe that some of the work that has started in Ocean Beach and probably needs to be done way out on the east end of Fire Island, can be and will be provided for under FIMI. It's up to our government, Suffolk County, the Town of Islip, the Senator Schumer's and Gillebrand's offices to get on board and make sure that the Army Corps, uh, provides the repairs that's due that are due under FIMI. So, I know that's confusing, and the press doesn't always report it accurately. So stay on top and watch the repairs and they will get done and they'll need to be done forever. Unfortunately, the ocean is not going away. Thanks. **Trustee Arment:** Thanks, Judy.

Trustee Levine: Judy, just to emphasize, we all get what you're saying. And, you know, we have a leak in our roof. We get it fixed right away. There's a problem here. There's a leak. The water's going through the dunes, and it could do a lot of damage. But it's the federal government, I guess. Right? You know, it's, uh. **Mayor Mallott:** We're in full support of everything the FIA did. **Judy Steinman:** Absolutely, absolutely. I know, and our citizens should be aware of that. Jimmy, um, I think I don't know how you get the news out. Ocean Beach Association certainly does its best. The village, I think, has to do more to tell people our government is really working for us and will continue to do so in the future, as long as we stay in touch with them. **Trustee Levine:** Judy, our neighboring communities in Seaview and the Pines, they're on the news and talking to the press every day. They're talking with Schumer. They're talking with everybody trying to get these projects done. We understand what you're saying, and we do support that project as well. And, uh, we'll help in any way we can. **Judy Steinman:** Okay, thank you.

Trustee Arment: Stephanie Cassell. Go ahead. **Mayor Mallott:** Tennis. **Stephanie Cassell:** Hi. Good morning everyone. Um, you might have addressed this in some of your other, um, funding quests, but I know that this week there was, um, a televised report. There were some elected officials that came out and, um, you know, got a look around at all the damage. And one of them said that they were going to the governor for an emergency declaration for funding. Is there a specific dollar amount or money that or project that that funding will be earmarked for, or is this outside of what you currently have going on and funds that are there?

Mayor Mallott: The, uh, governor has a threshold for um storm related damage of, I think 34 or \$35 million. 37. I'm guessing some people told me 34. Some people, you give me false information anyway. The governor is quite aware of what's going on down here on the South Shore. Um, she actually called, uh, the new, uh, County Executive, Ed Romaine, while we were having a press conference on the dock to assure him that she would probably declare an emergency, a state

of emergency for the whole of the south shore of Long Island. Uh, she has 30 days to make that declaration. So, uh, she hasn't done it yet. Is all I can tell you. What that does is, um, gives us all the opportunity to, uh, request funds from FEMA for damage that's been done by the storm. So, we're assessing that. We're looking for every nickel and dime we can get from the state and from the feds. You know, FEMA is a federal operation. The money that we get for this project is drainage project is an EFC Environmental Facilities Corporation, which is also a branch of FEMA. Um, there are a source of tremendous source of funding. Um, they've helped us. The EFC's helped us with everything that we've done here since Sandy. We got our money through the EFC and some through FEMA. Uh, the FEMA branch, obviously. Um, and we're looking for all the funding that we can get. So, watch the newspapers, see what Governor Hochul says, and you'll know that we're chasing the money as fast as we can.

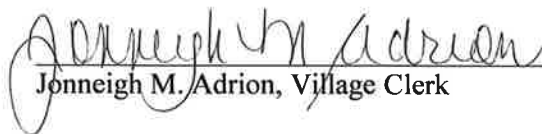
Trustee Arment: All right, Gary, go ahead. **Mayor Mallott:** Who's this? **Trustee Arment:** Gary's iPhone 13 Pro Max. Go ahead. No, I'll come back to you. Dave Lipsky. Uh. Go ahead. **David Lipsky:** Thank you. Um, what we're seeing, uh, of course, is, as people have already stated, are the impacts of climate change. Most of the predictions are for more, uh, problems into the future. Um. More horrible rainstorms and rising tides. There's not a lot we can do on the ocean side other than the beach replacement, but on the bay side and the flooding that is occurring from overtopping, uh, of the bay into the streets, I think a lot can be done. **Mayor Mallott:** David, is this question. David. Excuse me. Is this a question or a statement? Is this leading to a question? **David Lipsky:** It's a statement. **Mayor Mallott:** If there's a question, please ask the question. **David Lipsky:** I didn't. I thought this was the hearing of the citizen. I don't have a question. **Mayor Mallott:** I just had a statement from Judy Steinman. There was no questions there. Okay, again, I don't need a statement from you. I need a question if you have one. Everybody, please. **David Lipsky:** I don't have a question. I have a statement about whether. **Mayor Mallott:** I don't need a statement. David. Okay. I don't need a statement. I got my hands full here. I don't need I have to sit and listen to what statements that people have. Go on PBS, go on NPR to statement. If you have a question, the board sitting here waiting to answer it. Otherwise, please move over. Let the next question come along. I'm getting a little short on time here. **David Lipsky:** Okay, so you don't want to hear anything about long range planning. Uh, that might be more effective than what we are currently doing. **Mayor Mallott:** Not at this time. Not at this time. This is not the forum for. Maybe the OBA meeting's a better forum for statements. Oh, yeah. Please. Anybody got a question?

Trustee Arment: All right, one more try. Gary, are you there? **Gary:** Everybody? Yeah. Is that working now? **Trustee Arment:** Yes. You're on. Good luck. **Gary:** Okay, um, my question is, mayor and the board. Has anyone looked into what, um, they've done in Venice with the series of flap gates that they've installed on their inlets so that at the high tide cycle, um, the ocean doesn't come into the bay. For instance, if one was placed at the. **Mayor Mallott:** That's a little above our pay grade. Okay. That's it. We got nine blocks here in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. That's not something that we're going to look at gates like that in London to keep the ten. It's beyond our powers. So we're not thinking that far out of the box. That's a state question. That's a federal question. I don't know what to say. **Gary:** Okay. Thank you.

Trustee Arment: That's all. Motion to close. **Trustee Levine:** The executive. **Chief Hesse:** Session. **Trustee Levine:** Okay. Make a motion that we go back into executive session. **Trustee Arment:** To close this first. **Chief Hesse:** Close the motion to close. Okay. **Trustee Arment:** Oh, wait. I got to close the public hearing. Yeah. Okay. Yeah, yeah, I guess that's not a public hearing. **Trustee Levine:** So we'll make a motion to close the meeting and go back to executive session. Okay. **Mayor Mallott:** Make a motion to close the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Mallott moved to close the meeting at 12:36 PM. Trustee Arment seconded this motion. Upon call, the following voted:

Trustee Arment	Voted Aye
Trustee Hargraves	Voted Aye
Trustee Levine	Voted Aye
Trustee Moritz	Voted Aye
Mayor Mallott	Voted Aye


Jonneigh M. Adrion, Village Clerk