

**VILLAGE OF TUXEDO PARK**  
**MONTHLY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013**  
**4:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Thomas Wilson  
Deputy Mayor David du Pont  
Trustee Alan Heywood  
Trustee John Kilduff  
Trustee Liane Neuhauser

Also: Mary Graetzer, Mary Jo Guinchard, Chris Sonne

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Trustee Heywood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mayor's Update**

Mayor Wilson stated that the monthly meeting for June was rescheduled for this date because Mayor Elect Neuhauser would not be available on June 25<sup>th</sup>, and it is important for all Board members to be present for this last meeting of his Mayoral term.

He congratulated Trustees Elect Susan Goodfellow and Mary Jo Guinchard as well as Mayor Elect Lili Neuhauser on their recent election to the Board of Trustees.

A less than courteous conversation with a new Village resident who continually rides his bike along the Causeway despite several warnings and who said the wall would be the Mayor's legacy, prompted the Mayor to list the projects and issues that he has faced during this terms in office.

His primary reason for getting involved in Village politics was Tuxedo Reserve. He believes the Village must stand up for its municipal rights and not allow the Town to bully it. In the past three to six months the Village has been sending the Village Attorney to Town Zoning Board and Planning Board meetings to represent the Village's interest. It is important for the Village to establish a legal basis to file an Article 78 should the need arise in the future. Other projects include: the CodeRed Emergency Alert System; approved Bond financing for the Wee Wah Dam and East Village water line; a natural gas line into the Village as far as St. Mary's Church and the old Police station (which could be extended into the Village at a future date); redesign of the Village Website (and to be taken to the next level under Mayor Elect Neuhauser); successful Deer Management program (100 deer the first year, 39 this past year); and institution of a Lakes Management Program (with the help of Trustee Elect Goodfellow, Jim and Nancy Hays, and other volunteers).

Mayor Wilson also stated that although residents in a small community feel free to complain about the Police, the DPW, and the Village Office, he has worked with all these people first hand and he believes that everyone employed by the Village is not only good at what they do, but is

sincere, hardworking, and willing to listen and adapt to new ideas. He feels it has been a privilege to have worked with all these individuals both as a Trustee and as the Mayor.

Mayor Wilson thanked each of the current Trustees, stating it has been an honor to work with each of them. Many good things have been accomplished while laying the groundwork for things to come.

### **Mayor Elect Neuhauser Update**

Mayor Elect Neuhauser thanked Mayor Wilson for his remarks and all he accomplished in his terms as Trustee and Mayor. She commended him for his handling of the aftermath of both hurricanes and a snowstorm, and his use of the CodeRed System to keep residents informed as well as bring O&R in to explain their processes.

She stated that she intends to appoint Trustee du Pont to fill her unexpired Trustee position that she is vacating and to also appoint him as Deputy Mayor. She thanked Trustee Heywood for his years of service as a Trustee and looks forward to working with Trustees elect Goodfellow and Guinchard.

In response, Trustee Heywood stated that in his view, during his 13 years of living in Tuxedo Park, residents tend to overlook the abundance of natural disasters the Village has had to face. It was a remarkable achievement that the Village was able to basically return to normal within 10 days of Hurricane Sandy. Despite some disagreements, he felt it a pleasure to work with the Board, and through compromise and hard work they successfully saw the Village through some trying times.

Mayor Elect Neuhauser agreed and stated she is proud to have had Mayor Wilson's leadership in dealing with the Wee Wah Dam, the East Village water line and the Causeway Wall. She believes it is commendable that the Board has been able to accomplish what they have.

**Public Comments** – None

### **Causeway Wall Update**

Mayor Elect Neuhauser reported that Village Engineers have started developing a 'take down' plan. Staking and flagging is to begin on Tuesday, a detailed survey will be completed later in the week. The plan is to take down a section of the wall, complete the necessary repairs and immediately rebuild it. Hopefully, the Village will be able to open one lane of traffic during the rebuild. Building Inspector Ledwith will coordinate with all the necessary parties and firms in order to keep the project moving forward.

### **Financing for the Wall**

Mayor Wilson stated that he wanted to discuss moving forward on bank financing for the wall. He contacted the Village's financial advisor and was told the dollar amount (\$200-250K) is too small to justify the fees related to financing. The amount, which is a ballpark figure, would cover construction as well as administrative and legal fees. A local bank, Chase, was contacted

in regard to a Bond Anticipation Note, which is renewable annually at the going percentage rate for a maximum of five years, and is about 2% for the first year, plus legal and administrative fees each year as well. Deputy Mayor du Pont stated that there may be several residents interested in private placements. Both options will be pursued simultaneously.

**Tuxedo Club Fireworks** – Mayor Elect Neuhauser stated that in discussions regarding numerous solutions, the traffic will be funneled around to the west side along West Lake Road for viewing. Traffic can then move out of the Village either through the South Gate or along East Lake Road and out to the front gate.

### **Wee Wah Beach Club**

A discussion was held regarding the need to replace the raft at the Beach Club, which was badly damaged when it was used to do repair work on the Wee Wah Dam. During the past five years, the Beach Club has paid the Village \$19,000 in license fees, of which \$11,475 has been spent to date. Therefore, Deputy Mayor du Pont requested the Board allocate \$7,500 to the Beach Club for construction of a new raft. It will be built by the Beach Club but owned by the Village.

A motion was made by Mayor Wilson, seconded by Trustee Neuhauser that the Board approve \$7,500 towards materials for a new raft to be built by the Wee Wah Beach Club for use at the Wee Wah Beach.

Vote of the Board: 5 ayes, 0 nays

The motion was passed by a 5-0 vote.

### **Warwick Brook Testing**

Trustee Elect Susan Goodfellow had submitted a proposal by Watershed Assessment Associates for the invertebrate studies on Warwick Brook that began last year after orange foam was observed flowing into Wee Wah Lake. The studies provide crucial information regarding the health of the brook and will give the Village a reference point in the event the situation becomes worse in the future.

A motion was made by Mayor Wilson, seconded by Trustee Neuhauser that the Board approve the Watershed Assessment Associates' proposal for the invertebrate study of Warwick Brook (dated June 5, 2013) at a cost not to exceed \$20,000 for this year and \$20,000 for 2014.

Vote of the Board: 5 ayes, 0 nays

The motion was passed by a 5-0 vote.

### **Safety**

A discussion was held regarding the need for drivers to slow down when traveling on Village roads. Since it is now summer, there are more children, dogs, walkers, and bikers on the roads and more caution is necessary. Even though the Police have increased their presence along the

detour route and are giving out more tickets, they can't be everywhere at once. Two new stop signs and 3 'Children at Play' signs in the Pine Hill/Ridge Road vicinity have been installed by the DPW and have helped.

### **Audit of Claims**

Bills in the amount of \$170,874.31 in the General Fund, claim numbers 6-1 to 6-86; \$36,735.50 in the Water Fund, claim numbers W6-1 to W6-14; \$2,356.00 in Capital Projects, claim numbers CP6-1; and \$3,934.10 in Professional Fees, claim numbers PF6-1 to PF6-3 were audited and ordered paid.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mayor Wilson, seconded by Trustee Heywood that the meeting be adjourned at 4:42 p.m. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Matthews  
Village Clerk-Treasurer