

**MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2023
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
FOR THE
INC. VILLAGE OF RUSSELL GARDENS**

PRESENT David M. Miller, Mayor, Larry Chaleff, Deputy Mayor, Trustee Martin Adickman, Trustee Matt Ellis, Trustee Jane Krakauer and Danielle Pennise, Village Clerk Treasurer.

Mayor David M. Miller opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M. in Village Hall and introduced **Local Law (1-2023)** to amend Russell Gardens Code Chapter A65 entitled "Zoning Board of Appeals: Rules and Regulations." (Local Law attached) We are imposing a timeframe on the requested information and or documentation to be submitted by the applicant. At our next public meeting, a public hearing on this law will be held.

With No questions from the public, upon motion from **Deputy Mayor Larry Chaleff** and seconded by **Trustee Jane Krakauer** and unanimously approved, the following resolution was adopted.

RESOLVED, to schedule a Public Hearing on **April 13, 2023, at 8:00 P.M.** for the proposal of Local Law 1-2023 to amend Russell Gardens Code Chapter A65 entitled "Zoning Board of Appeals: Rules and Regulations."

REGULAR MEETING:

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2023

A motion was made by **Larry Chaleff** to accept the minutes of **February 2, 2023**, and seconded by **Jane Krakauer**.

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN

NAY: NONE

Mayor David Miller made further comments with reference to the operations of the village. Tax bills were mailed to all property owners. All cash accounts of the village are invested to maximize the village's interest earnings. Our budget for the village's new fiscal year has been filed with the Office of the New York State Comptroller. The village will be audited by our CPA firm for its Fiscal Year ending 2/28/2023.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JANUARY 31, 2023

A motion was made by **Larry Chaleff** to accept the Treasurer's Report for **January 31, 2023**, and seconded by **Jane Krakauer**.

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN

NAY: NONE

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT AND MAINTENANCE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2023

Mayor David Miller commented, the Building Inspector's report is a consolidated report issued from both the Superintendent and inspector of the village. As a result of New York receiving a low amount of snowfall for the season, the village used less salt this year. The new plow truck was used to salt the streets during the previous snowfall. The truck is operating well.

A motion was made by **Larry Chaleff** to accept the Building Inspector's Reports and Maintenance Report for **February 28, 2023**, and seconded by **Jane Krakauer**.

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN

NAY: NONE

Mayor David M. Miller read the following resolutions:

To Amend **Section 103** of the **Open Meetings Law**. **Mayor Miller** opened a discussion with the board. The Mayor tabled the proposed resolution for the next meeting.

VOUCHERS-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT

RESOLVED, to approve **disbursements from First National Bank of Long Island General Funds Checking Account** in the amount of **\$104,084.19** for invoices paid in **Jan. 2023**, Check #'s 1673 to 1698, including Electronic Transfers, Paychex Payroll and Direct Deposit.

A motion was made by **Larry Chaleff** and seconded by **Jane Krakauer**.

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN

NAY: NONE

CONTRACTS

Mayor David Miller: Village tennis courts will be prepped for the season and the following resolution is to renew our contract.

RESOLVED, to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with **Laurel Gold Coast Tennis**; 31 Prospect St., Huntington, NY 11743 pursuant to the terms and conditions provided in the proposal dated February 1, 2023, to recondition three red clay tennis courts at a cost of **\$7,850.00**.

A motion was made by **Larry Chaleff** and seconded by **Jane Krakauer**.

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN
NAY: NONE

Mayor David Miller: Forchelli Deegan Terrana's Tax Certiorari Practice Group has defended the village on commercial tax certiorari cases; however, the firm can no longer represent the village due to its acquisition of a boutique law firm which has pending tax certiorari cases in the village.

Resolution attached for adoption by the Board: **Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP's (FDT) Tax Certiorari Practice Group.**

A motion was made by **Larry Chaleff** and seconded by **Jane Krakauer**.

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN
NAY: NONE

The following resolution appoints a special counsel for tax certiorari matters to avoid a conflict of interest.

RESOLVED, to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with **Spellman Gibbons Polizzi Truncale & Trentacoste, LLP**, to retain the firm as its attorneys to act as the Village's Tax Certiorari Counsel. The Firm's time shall be billed at \$250 per hour for time expended by associates and \$275 per hour for time expended by partners of the Firm.

A motion was made by **Larry Chaleff** and seconded by **Jane Krakauer**.

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN
NAY: NONE

Mayor David Miller: The next resolution imposes a timeframe on a permit. In addition, the village's building inspectors currently perform interim and final inspections on residential permits.

RESOLVED, Building permits shall become invalid unless the authorized work is commenced within six months following the date of issuance.

A motion was made by **Larry Chaleff** and seconded by **Jane Krakauer**.

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN
NAY: NONE

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on **Thursday, April 13, 2023.**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at **8:45 P.M.** by **Larry Chaleff** and seconded by **Jane Krakauer.**

VOTE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AYE: DAVID MILLER, LARRY CHALEFF, JANE KRAKAUER, MATT ELLIS, AND MARTIN ADICKMAN

NAY: NONE

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Pennise, Village Clerk Treasurer
Inc. Village of Russell Gardens