

## **Council Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2023**

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL AND IN-PERSON

**Council Members Present:** Andrew Kauders; Susan Fattig; Arthur Alexander; Katie Howard; Jeff Blander

**Residents and other Attendees:** Village Manager: Michael Silliman; Building Administrator: Doug Lohmeyer; Village Attorney: Ron Bolt; Keith Allen (Turner Ln.); Nathaniel Edelstein (Quincy St.); Marty Langelan (Chestnut St.); Joel Kliksberg (Quincy St.); George McAleese (Melville Pl.); Lorie Mitchell (Cummings Ln.); Doug Grob (Cummings Ln.); Hiromi Maruyama (Cummings Ln.); Ben Dunford (Taylor Ln.); and Lynn Welle (Oxford St.).

### **7:30 PM Call to Order: Kauders**

Keith Allen reported that Father's Day and Juneteenth will have great weather. Keith mentioned the wildfires in Canada causing smoke.

### **Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments.**

Marty Langelan provided an update on the community listserv work and mentioned wanting the voter roll verification document to be published, ongoing parking enforcement needs, discussions of various building code edits, and expressed support for new taskforces.

Nathaniel Edelstein commented on the ongoing water concerns at 151 Quincy.

Doug Grob commented on the development that has started at 3419 Cummings Lane and raised the question as to whether the large structure planter box that is in the side yard is subject to building setbacks.

Hiromi Maruyama added that when the Village code does not address a specific issue, it should be at the Council's authority and responsibility to reasonably interpret.

Joel Kliksberg commented that each Council member should visit to see for themselves the development at 3419 Cummings. There are two items here to address, the current issue at hand and also the long-term resources the Council has to solve the larger problem.

### **8:01 PM Building Administrator's Report: Lohmeyer**

Doug Lohmeyer delivered his report. Further discussion was had in regard to 3419 Cummings and 151 Quincy. Andrew noted that the Council will go into closed session tonight to receive legal advice on both of these issues.

### **Discuss 153 Quincy new driveway proposal**

Village Manager Michael Silliman gave a brief background as to the various new driveway proposals that were submitted and not approved. Village Attorney Ron Bolt explained the options the property owners can take after a permit application is rejected: appeal the decision, apply for a variance, or submit another driveway apron design that conforms to Village requirements. The owner Joel Kliksberg gave the backstory of how this situation got to this point and provided two issues for the Council to address: 1) the driveway apron of 151 Quincy is on the property line and the Council should address this and 2) an appeal to interpret the code correctly that the 5-foot turning radius is a maximum, not a minimum requirement. Village Attorney Ron Bolt recommended processing an appeal and a variance request simultaneously.

### **Approve May Meeting Minutes: Kauders**

Arthur moved to approve the May meeting minutes. Jeff seconded. The minutes passed unanimously.

### **8:36 PM Committee Updates: Kauders Community Engagement**

Keith Allen provided an update on the Community Engagement Committee's planning for the July 4<sup>th</sup> event and the calendar for the rest of the year.

### **Ethics**

Lorie Mitchell provided the highlights for the Ethics Committee's annual report and thanked her fellow committee members. Lorie noted that the committee asked a number of questions of the Council that are still outstanding.

### **Election**

George McAleese provided an update about the last meeting of the Election Committee and thanked everyone for patience as they had some delays in getting the final election results out. George thanked the Village for such a good voter turnout, Michael for his support of the Committees work, and his fellow Committee members.

Andrew Kauders thanked all the committee volunteers and thanked the previous safety and walkability taskforces for all their work that resulted in a number of recommendations that are being implemented in the next year.

Jeff Blander thanked everyone as well and commented that the Council can address some issues going forward to strengthen processes and provide tactical and strategic solutions.

### **8:49 PM Discussion of FY24 standing and ad hoc committees.**

Andrew Kauders mentioned the goal to stand up two new taskforces in the new fiscal year including a taskforce to create educational programming around the resolution condemning antisemitic acts and a taskforce looking into the water issues and the Village building code. The Council directed Village Manager Michael Silliman to start by creating the scope of work and general mission for these new taskforces. The Council will vote to create these new taskforces in July and then issue a call for volunteers.

### **Treasurer's Report: Alexander**

Arthur provided his report. Arthur motioned to move \$8,000 from the snow removal line item to the events line item to make up for spending in that category. Jeff seconded. This passed unanimously.

### **Manager's Report: Silliman**

Michael delivered his report.

### **9: 35 PM Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: TBD**

George McAleese commented in a personal capacity about his negative experience serving on the Election Committee the last three years, due to the conduct of certain residents.

Lynn Welle commented that he wasn't familiar with The Traffic Group and asked for clarity on the Village's relationship.

Ben Dunford commented that George McAleese has served this Village well despite being personally attacked.

Marty Langelan commented that she agrees about civility and said that questions to the Election Committee are not personal attacks but questions that need to be answered.

### **Closed session.**

While in open session, Susan moved and Arthur seconded to enter closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(7) to obtain legal advice from counsel regarding interpretation of the Village building code, water drainage concerns, and appeal and variance procedures, related to the projects at 3419 Cummings and 151 and

153 Quincy. This was unanimous. The Council received legal advice regarding these matters. No action was taken. The closed session adjourned at 10:50 pm.

**10:51 PM Adjournment: Kauders**

Arthur moved and Susan seconded. This was unanimous.