TIME

Chairman Mannone convened the meeting at 6:30 pm

**ROLL CALL** 

Commissioners Beckman, Samoles, Mannone, Doherty

**VISITORS** 

Oceanside Residents

MOTION PREVIOUS MINUTES

On Motion by Commissioner Samoles and seconded by Commissioner Mannone to Table the reading and approval of the minutes for the General Board meeting on March 2,2023, Meeting #3451 Approved, 3-0. Motion passed (Doherty abstained as he was not present at the past meeting)

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MOTION DISTRICT EXPENSES

On Motion by Commissioner Beckman and seconded by Commissioner Doherty to approve payment of District operating expenses, including payroll, for the period from March 3, 2023- April 13,2023 Approved, 4-0. Motion passed.

REPORTS

#### Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

Subject to Audit

Supervisors' Report:

Nothing new to report

Commissioner/Committee Reports Nothing new to report

Chairman's Report:

Nothing new to report

**Budget Committee Report:** 

Nothing new to report

Commercial Pick-Up Committee: Public Relations Committee:

Nothing new to report Nothing new to report

Insurance Committee:

Nothing new to report

Personnel Committee:

Nothing new to report

Ethics Committee:

Nothing new to report

IT Committee:

Nothing new to report

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **PERB Filing:**

Mr. Ciampoli drafted letter, sent to his law partners to look over. Checking with PERB that it's in the form they want and will file.

#### Solar Panel RFP

Counsel advises there are a number of things we need to put in the RFP. Last RFP was one paragraph, wasn't specific enough. Responses were all over the place. Do the Commissioners want to lease or buy? Commissioner Beckman is clear they want to lease, and no outlay of money. Commissioner Samoles agrees to lease. Mr. Ciampoli suggested asking the following in the RFP; obtain a proposal from potential company, statement of qualifications, details of key personnel and their qualifications, their availability during the process, statement of performance record, knowledge of our locality, experience level, finally present a formal presentation to The Board.

Questions asked- is this going to contribute to the local economic development? Commissioner Mannone reiterates we want to lease the panels. Commissioner Beckman this should not cost 22 cents and we will ensure the roof is guaranteed 100% and any potential damage. A resident asked if we will have a professional come in to design and fit the panels, and make sure the boards needs will be met. Commissioner Samoles adds if there is a surplus of money we can make sure it goes back into the district. Commissioner Beckman adds years have past since the companies have come in- we need to speak with them again as the process has modernized. We need 3 companies to come in and review everything and let them give us a formal proposal. Mr. Ciampoli adds they should be able to guarantee the panel will produce 80% of what they are originally designed to do within 25 years. Commissioner Doherty adds as long as there is no outlay of money and the ROI is worth it.

On Motion by Commissioner Beckman and seconded by Commissioner Doherty, Authorizing upon the prepared and circulated we can do an RFP for Solar Panels Approved, 4-0. Motion passed

MOTION

Motion by Commissioner Mannone on the Hiring Proposal, we have the hard copies and the rough draft to review process, would like to add to the agenda for the next meeting. This was a 2 year project, now that we have the audit finalized we can now do it. Commissioner Beckman had requested all job descriptions, and civil service guidelines. Commissioner Mannone asked The Board to review and get back to him next month.

**NEW BUSINESS** 

Proposal by Commissioner Beckman to adopt new public guidelines the same as the school board. Each taxpayer will be allowed 2 minutes to either speak or ask a question. The Board will have 2 minutes to respond or take it under advisement for the following month. Commissioner Mannone feels this is a fair compromise. Commissioner Doherty likes it as well, and feels this will maintain order as long as everybody has a chance to say something if they want. Commissioner Beckman adds not a 10 minute opportunity. A resident asks if they are adopting a proposal but it is not in writing as of yet. Commissioner Beckman adds we are making a motion and assumes Pat will be making the motion. Resident adds, you can't change the rules in a meeting. Commissioner Beckman said there are no rules about how long the time should be. This has become a free for all since I joined in June. It is not professional, this is not fair to the taxpayers and The Board. The resident adds you must have all written down with the exact description. Commissioner Mannone add this is a simple proposal to make the questions and answer period a 2 minute response.

MOTION

This will all be reflected in the minutes of this meeting. I have no problem and we can adopt and I can put in afterwards and memorialize it. Let us put this in the rule book. The resident adds The Board is not out of line by doing this, but counsel they don't have a written proposal to vote on. You need to put these in writing. You need to make a motion to submit and prepare. Commissioner Doherty adds let the public know and prepare going forward. Commissioner Mannone would like to make a Motion to adopt a rule that will limit the question and answer period to the public to a 2 minute per person and commissioner with a 2 minute response time that will be reduced to writing as a meeting policy guideline for final approval at the next meeting and for publication on our website seconded by Commissioner Samoles, Approved, 4-0. Motion passed

In response to the audit, our Treasurer, staff and Commissioner Beckman have put together a policy book addressing many of the issues from the audit findings. Treasurer submitted this a while ago, and emailed a copy to the Commissioners. If everyone can take a look, as well as Counsel Ciampoli. Commissioner Mannone asks the Board to consider getting approval now so we can address a vast majority of the recommendations. Commissioner Beckman read in its entirety and approves it. Commissioner Mannone would like the opportunity to review once more in detail. It's one thing to adopt but wants the institution to follow, and Commissioner Beckman agrees. Commissioner Mannone says it's a process, and we need to keep on top of it. The Treasurer did a fantastic job addressing with accountant and auditors. Commissioner Doherty asks to have a special meeting. Commissioner Mannone agrees, and suggests an hour before the next General Board meeting.

MOTION

Commissioner Beckman suggests 5:30pm and the Treasurer can change on the computer and have prepared for the General Meeting. Commissioner Beckman shares that Lisa, the treasurer did an unbelievable job. Mr. Ciampoli adds you have to go in session and then go into Executive session. Commissioner Beckman adds that is not what the school board does. Commissioner Mannone would like to make a Motion to schedule a special meeting on May 4th 2023 at 5:30pmto adopt policy manual and to vote on it immediately after in the General Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Beckman, Approved, 4-0. Motion passed

MOTION

Commissioner Mannone would like to make a motion for a resolution to adopt The Public Entity Safety Manual provided by our insurance company. He would like to direct the Supervisor John Colalillo and Secretary Missy Kornbluth to review existing policies and incorporate into these final copies for next months meeting and make recommendations to appoint a new safety officer and members to the committee. Seconded by Commissioner Samoles, Approved, 4-0. Motion passed

Commissioner Samoles reminds the public about the Shred the Med event April 22, 2023. Jonny Kass has taken care of the flyers.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A resident shared she read the 22 pages completely from the audit and the glossary about why the taxes were raised 13%, as she felt she did not get a proper answer last meeting. The audit answered a lot of her questions, and others may feel the same way. The audit was from the Calendar year of January 1- December 31. 85% of total spend of the budget is for salaries and benefits. The balance 15%, is that enough to cover day to day operation expenses? On page 6 the district budget is sent to the Town of Hempstead for approval. Commissioner Mannone expressed at the last meeting you did not know that was part of the process. Commissioner Mannone said you are incorrect, I do know this is part of the process. We do this every year. The resident said that is not what you said last meeting. Commissioner Mannone adds you may have mis understood it. The resident asked when did the budget go to TOH for approval? When is the date that TOH approved the adopted budget?

The findings explain a lot to me. On page 8 it states there are no written policies on the budget, lack of board oversite, failure to monitor the budget, didn't document transfer of funds causing deficits, inaccurate financial reporting, financial statements, accounting records. On page 9, highlights 2019, use of internal QuickBooks by district treasurer, no guarantee of the accuracy of the numbers. Fund balance was not entered into accounting system and failure to prior audit of budget, poor fund balance management, on March 13th, Commissioner Mannone wrote a nice letter thanking the office and says the board will follow recomendations of the audit. What was said was done by the past board for this years budget going up 13% and so the question is, do you have a budget committee to prepare and I imagine its probably some people who are still on the board. She states she is extremely disappointed. This is the only town government we have. We are a hamlet, no village hall, the town depends on you to make it right. If you want to pass policies tonight, you need to write it down .

Audit clearly says preparing the budget you gave no guidelines. I am a taxpayer being charged 13% more in taxes for the exact same service. The audit said we are doing the right thing, as said we do have great service. The workers are great. When I call I get answers right away. The audit explains why we are being charged more. The Treasurer adds she was not here in 2018-2020. When the auditors came in I learned things and said things can be done better. I have worked with the internal accountants to use these policies and procedures on budgeting. Understand, trying to address many things and it takes time to correct. The resident is disappointed it got to this point. The treasurer is hoping it will only get better as we look at the budget from last year to this year to see the differences. Commissioner Doherty adds we have a zero budget increase, and 1% increase one year as we purposely tried to keep it down. Everything you said was in black and white. The taxpayer asks if we can get a refund from the town, that has happened before as there was no policy, no guideline or oversight of the budget process.

Commissioner Mannone adds the budget was from 2018-2019 at which time I was not Chairman of the Board. The resident adds you voted for the budget. Commissioner asks for others to speak as she made her point. The Commissioner than adds your assessment of the audit is incorrect. It looks at the prior year. It isn't why your taxes went up. The reason why your taxes went up is because we made a decision to pay the workers., We had a cost of living increase, that is the reason. What the audit does point out is we did not have policies in effect. This is because eight years ago there were no policies. We didn't implement and we should have. We haven't implemented any changes. We are following the existing structure that was handled by Scarlatta and under their policies for the last eight years. Resident adds this is 2023! We came in 2015, no written policies. This board and I will take responsibility never fully changed the institution that ran it before. It never put in the policies. Nobody wanted to do it, since 2015.

The last three years we have had control over the district because internally an effort was made to stop it. It has been a real challenge the resident adds because their was no oversight. Commissioner Mannone reiterates the increase did result from non oversight. Of course there was oversight. The resident adds did you read the Newsday article? Commissioner Mannone disagrees with the article, I think it's sensationalized, all the auditors said is you need written policies, and conclusions, and it was worded unfairly. The resident felt it was written fairly. Commissioner challenges and replies no, it was not fair, as it did not fairly characterize what they recommended. It snowballed because we made the decision to pay our employees and we had a 8.5% cost of living increase. Counsel adds fuel, electricity. Commissioner adds if you are against the 13% tax increase than you are against paying the workers. The residents is disagreeing with the Commissioner. Commissioner Beckman adds the audit was not for this year, and not pointing fingers during the year of the audit.

It was years past however, the increase snowballed into now. You can't go back on life. We have to deal with the hand we have been delt. I have no choice. I am part of the budget committee. It was part my decision to raise taxes. I thought long and hard as I am a single mother, taxpayer and semi retired. I understand, I listened to you last month. But we as a board now, as I don't care who was on the board in the past. The problem is this is the hand we were delt. So yes, the taxes needed to be raised 13%. It was the boards mistake not to raise taxes enough over the past years. They were 150% wrong. If they raised it every year the appropriate amount we wouldn't be talking to me about 13%. No one put hats on their head and said gee, thank you for not raising taxes and gave a cigar and congratulated them. So now being raised some are upset and I understand I am a taxpayer. Reality puts us in a much better situation for the next year, and it will not be this increase next year. The resident adds we only have 15% of the budget should we have an issue. Commissioner Beckman says we have insurance, and we are in good shape.

The treasurer adds we sent the budget to the Town Of Hempstead on September 8, 2022 for approval. Commissioner Mannone adds , like we do every year. I am sorry you were misinformed. The resident add she was not mis informed. Commissioner Mannone replies whatever I said mis informed you. The resident adds she was mis informed because Commissioner Mannone said that out loud at last months meeting. Commissioner Mannone explains that if I said that , you were misinformed by me.

Mr. Faust expresses the workers do an excellent job. Day in and day out nothing but respect for the workers. In terms of the board, you have a good chance to now improve the administration. The audit should be a template for what you should do. Look at the pie chart for the recommendations. The treasurer shows the chart that was created. Mr. Faust suggests to review weekly or monthly, is it all coming together? He recommends that you have a budget meeting that starts in January and on a monthly basis see how your finances are going. The treasurer shares that is what we currently do. This is what Commissioner Mannone implemented. Mr. Faust compliments the Treasurer, and said she is doing a great job. The treasurer shares the budget is at 24.6% at the end of the first quarter. Well in 2018, a female employee Jackie Urli . Commissioner Mannone cuts off Mr. Faust and said before you start, we can not talk about a pending litigation. If we engage or you say something it can cost the taxpayers money. You are potentially jeopardizing every tax payer.

We could lose our insurance. Mr. Faust tries to speak over Commissioner Mannone, Ms. Urli was sexually harassed. He adds I am a citizen and I can speak. Commissioner Mannone replies with, if you keep bringing this up I will go into executive session. Talking in public is potentially jeopardizing losing insurance, and you don't care about that. All you care about are your friends. That is why you are a trouble maker.

MOTION EXECUTIVE SESSION

On Motion by Commissioner Doherty , seconded by Commissioner Beckman to go into executive session. Motion approved, 4-0

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** 

MOTION

On Motion by Commissioner Mannone, seconded by Commissioner Doherty to approve the buybacks. Let the minutes reflect the details. Motion approved, 4-0

MOTION

On Motion by Commissioner Beckman , seconded by Commissioner Doherty to hire Steve Leventhal for the election. Motion approved, 4-0

MOTION

On Motion by Commissioner Beckman , seconded by Commissioner Doherty to advance CDL cost for our drivers and use payroll deductions to pay the district back. Motion approved, 4-0

# **Employee Number # 149**

2458.36

**Buy Backs:** 

## Employee Number #132

3686.59

MOTION

On Motion by Commissioner Doherty, seconded by Commissioner Samoles to end the meeting. Motion approved,

John M. Mannone, Chairman

Austin R.Graff, Co-Chairman

Joseph Samoles

Sheryl Beckman

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Prepared by Treasurer Lazansky and subject to audit.

The folling irrevocable standby letters of credit serve as security for the District funds on deposit with TD Bank:

FLH Bank Pittsburg

\$7,000,000 Irrevocable standby letter of credit

HLB831522060034

J.P. Morgan Chase Bank

960,109.03 FDIC Coverage, collateral for amount in excess of \$250,000

CHASE BANK

Ck. Acct. Bal 3/3/23

\$ 1,079,621.01

3/15/2023 Payroll Transfer 3/31/2023 Interest

675,000.00

659.77

\$ 1,755,280.78

Disbursed thru 4/13/23

\$ 795,171.75

Total Ck. Acct. Bal 4/13/23

960,109.03

TD BANK

Ck. Acct. Bal 3/3/23

\$ 4,819,541.38

Deposits:

3/15/2023 Medical

623.58

ZJ Comp refund

821.02 4,851.82

PILOT

3/15/2023 Interest

996.29

\$ 4,826,834.09

Disbursed thru 4/13/23

991,822.53

Total Ck. Acct. Bal 4/13/23

\$ 3,835,011.56

Total Combined Balances as of Aril 1, 2023

\$ 4,795,120.59

Register: 10200 · Chase

From 03/03/2023 through 04/13/2023 Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	С	Deposit	Balance
03/03/2023	AWD	ADP Services	65080 · Payroll Proces		2,663.99	X		1,076,957.02
03/06/2023	AWD	NYS Employees Reti	24100 · EE Retirement		7,645.82	X		1,069,311.20
03/09/2023	PRPMT0		27300 · Payroll Federa		55,553.78	X		1,013,757.42
03/09/2023	PRPMT0		27100 · Payroll Checks		109,629.17	X		904,128.25
03/10/2023	AWD	New York State Defe	24175 · EE Deferred C	3/4/23	35,334.00	X		868,794.25
03/15/2023			9699 · Transfers	Deposit		X	675,000.00	1,543,794.25
03/15/2023	AWD	New York State Defe	24175 · EE Deferred C	3/11/23	5,334.00	X		1,538,460.25
03/16/2023	PRPMT0		27300 · Payroll Federa		34,938.14	X		1,503,522.11
03/16/2023	PRPMT0		27100 · Payroll Checks		75,206.32	X		1,428,315.79
03/22/2023	AWD	New York State Defe	24175 · EE Deferred C	3/18/2023	5,434.00	X		1,422,881.79
03/23/2023	PRPMT0		27300 · Payroll Federa		35,253.65	X		1,387,628.14
03/23/2023	PRPMT0		27100 · Payroll Checks		75,941.42	X		1,311,686.72
03/30/2023	PRPMT0		27300 · Payroll Federa		35,419.17	X		1,276,267.55
03/30/2023	PRPMT0		27100 · Payroll Checks		76,350.90	X		1,199,916.65
03/31/2023			45000 · Investments:45	Interest		X	659.77	1,200,576.42
03/31/2023	AWD	New York State Defe	24175 · EE Deferred C	3/25/23				1,200,576.42
03/31/2023	AWD	NYS Employees Reti	24100 · EE Retirement	March Retirem	7,788.40			1,192,788.02
04/05/2023	AWD	New York State Defe	24175 · EE Deferred C		5,256.00	X		1,187,532.02
04/06/2023	PRPMT0		27300 · Payroll Federa		35,745.37			1,151,786.65
04/06/2023	PRPMT0		27100 - Payroll Checks		70,950.16			1,080,836.49

Register: 10200 · Chase

From 03/03/2023 through 04/13/2023 Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment C	Deposit Balance
04/07/2023	AWD	ADP Services	65080 · Payroll Proces		2,079.10	1,078,757.39
04/13/2023	2786	CSEA	24300 · Union Dues	April Dues	1,554.91	1,077,202.48
04/13/2023	2787	teamsters local 553	24300 · Union Dues	April Dues	4,442.00	1,072,760.48
04/13/2023	2788	Teamsters National 4	24400 · Teamsters 401K	T. Freudenberg	201.36	1,072,559.12
04/13/2023	PRPMT0		27300 · Payroll Federa		35,671.52	1,036,887.60
04/13/2023	PRPMT0		27100 · Payroll Checks		76,778.57	960,109.03

Register: 10150 · TD Bank

From 03/03/2023 through 04/13/2023

Sorted by: Date and Order Entered

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
03/15/2023			-split- EE Medical EE Medical PILOT Refunds	Deposit  ZJ Comp Refund		X	6,296.42 311.79 311.79 4,851.82 821.02	4,825,837.80
03/15/2023			45000 · Investments:45	. Interest		X	996.29	4,826,834.09
03/28/2023	AWD	GoDaddy LLC	65000 · Operations:65	renewal website	42.34	X		4,826,791.75
04/13/2023	33894	Ace Hardware	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 123	62.71			4,826,729.04
04/13/2023	33895	Airweld Inc.	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 124	495.00			4,826,234.04
04/13/2023	33896	All Systems Brake Se	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 125	1,537.82			4,824,696.22
04/13/2023	33897	american Bankers Ins	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 126	8,608.00			4,816,088.22
04/13/2023	33898	Arthur J. Gallagher R	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 127	62,677.00			4,753,411.22
04/13/2023	33899	AT&T	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 128	6.04			4,753,405.18
04/13/2023	33900	AT&T Mobility	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 129	34.62			4,753,370.56
4/13/2023	33901	Cablevision	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 130	139.94			4,753,230.62
4/13/2023	33902	Callahead	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 131	62.00			4,753,168.62
4/13/2023	33903	Capital Tire Service	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 132	7,173.70		4	4,745,994.92
4/13/2023	33904	Comply	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 133	1,175.00		2	4,744,819.92
4/13/2023	33905	CSEA-EBF	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 134	3,141.65		4	4,741,678.27
4/13/2023	33906	Dennis Heuer	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 122	989.40		4	1,740,688.87
4/13/2023	33907	Drum Industrial Sale	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 135	325.20	ń	. 4	1,740,363.67
1/13/2023	33908	Farinella, Joseph	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 122	989.40		4	1,739,374.27

Register: 10150 · TD Bank

From 03/03/2023 through 04/13/2023

Sorted by: Date and Order Entered

Date Numb	er Payee	Account	Memo	Payment C	Deposit Balance
04/13/2023 33909	Gabrielli Truck Sales	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 136	3,100.68	4,736,273.59
04/13/2023 33910	George Beyer	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 122	989.40	4,735,284.19
04/13/2023 33911	Global Montello Gro.	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 137	17,795.22	4,717,488.97
04/13/2023 33912	Hess Fleet Card	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 138	357.85	4,717,131.12
04/13/2023 33913	Jean & Charles Thure	n 20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 122	989.40	4,716,141.72
04/13/2023 33914	John & catherine Ro	. 20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 122	989.40	4,715,152.32
04/13/2023 33915	Long Island Freightli	. 20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 139	2,084.57	4,713,067.75
04/13/2023 33916	Long Island Sanitatio	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 140	186.76	4,712,880.99
04/13/2023 33917	National Grid	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 141	132.71	4,712,748.28
04/13/2023 33918	Nawrocki Smith	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 142	806.25	4,711,942.03
4/13/2023 33919	New York State Emp	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 143	185,739.47	4,526,202.56
4/13/2023 33920	North Star Auto Body	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 144	3,950.00	4,522,252.56
4/13/2023 33921	NYSIF	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 145	1,473.42	4,520,779.14
4/13/2023 33922	Poland Spring Water	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 146	456.87	4,520,322.27
4/13/2023 33923	PSEG Electric	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 147	1,025.83	4,519,296.44
4/13/2023 33924	PSEG Recycling	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 148	523.17	4,518,773.27
1/13/2023 33925	Samoles, Christine	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 122	494.70	4,518,278.57
/13/2023 33926	Samoles, Joseph	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 122	494.70	4,517,783.87
/13/2023 33927	Sanitary District No.7	20000 · Accounts Paya		675,000.00	3,842,783.87
/13/2023 33928	Scarlata, Charles	20000 · Accounts Paya (	Claim No. 122	692.40	3,842,091.47

Register: 10150 · TD Bank

From 03/03/2023 through 04/13/2023

Sorted by: Date and Order Entered

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment C	Deposit Balance
04/13/2023	33929	Sele-Dent	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 149	1,837.00	3,840,254.47
04/13/2023	33930	Sele-Dent Admin Fee	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 150	123.00	3,840,131.47
04/13/2023	33931	Staples	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 151	513.34	3,839,618.13
04/13/2023	33932	The Parts Authority	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 152	2,914.21	3,836,703.92
04/13/2023	33933	TIAA Bank	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 153	155.00	3,836,548.92
04/13/2023	33934	Verizon	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 154	373.37	3,836,175.55
04/13/2023	33935	Verizon Recycling	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim No. 155	174.59	3,836,000.96
04/13/2023	33936	Ambort,Mark	20000 · Accounts Paya	Claim 122	989.40	3,835,011.56 V