

1 Reviewed Draft

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3 Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Great Neck Estates on Monday,
4 Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:00 pm. at Village Hall, 4 Atwater Plaza, Great Neck, NY

5

6 Present: Mayor William D. Warner

7 Deputy Mayor Jeffrey Farkas

8 Trustee Ira Ganzfried

9 A. Thomas Levin, Esq. Village Attorney

10 Kathleen L Santelli, Village Administrator

11 Excused: Trustee Howard Herschensohn

12 Trustee Michael J. Smiley

13

14 Mayor Warner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

15

16 EXECUTIVE SESSION

17 At 7:00 pm, on motion by Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas and adopted
18 unanimously, the Board convened in executive session to discuss legal advice with counsel,
19 matters pertaining to collective bargaining, and matters pertaining to hiring one or more particular
20 persons. The Board took no action in executive session.

21

22 At 8:00 pm, the Board returned to public session on motion by Mayor Warner, seconded by Trustee
23 Ganzfried, and adopted unanimously.

24

25 BUILDING DEPARTMENT

26 Mayor Warner noted that the October-December 2023 Report of Building Department activity had
27 been distributed to the Board and is on file and available for inspection at the Village Office. On
28 motion offered by Mayor Warner, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, and adopted unanimously,
29 the Board accepted the October-December 2023 Building Department Report.

30

31 ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

32 On motion of Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, and duly adopted by
33 unanimous vote, the Board affirmed the December 21, 2023 recommendations of the ARB for
34 approval of the following applications:

35 Manoucher Ashourzadeh, 35 Laurel Dr, Inground pool, two pergolas, pool surround, BBQ area,
36 stairs to basement & landscaping

37 Gianni Ping & Jiazin Zhu, 11 Ascot Ridge, 2-story addition, new façade, front porch, exterior
38 alterations, landscaping, etc.

39

40 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

41 Mayor Warner noted that the report of Public Works activity for the month of December 2023 had
42 been distributed to the Board and is on file and available for inspection at the Village Office. On
43 motion of Deputy Mayor Farkas, seconded by Trustee Smiley, and duly adopted by unanimous
44 vote, the Board accepted the December 2023 Public Works Department report.

45

46 POLICE DEPARTMENT

47 Sgt. Shannon Noor was present on behalf of Chief Moreno.

48 Mayor Warner noted that the report of Police activity for the month of December 2023 had been
49 distributed to the Board and is on file and available for inspection at the Village Office. On motion
50 offered by Mayor Warner, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, and adopted unanimously, the
51 Board accepted the December 2023 Police Department report.

52 Mayor Warner appointed Charles Powell as the departmental Highway Officer for calendar year
53 2024. The appointment was approved on motion by Mayor Warner, seconded by Deputy Mayor
54 Farkas, and adopted unanimously

55 2023 Tahoe Lighting

56 Sgt. Noor stated that three proposals were solicited for the purchase of lighting for the new Tahoe
57 and recommended East Coast Emergency Lighting.

58 On motion of Mayor Warner, seconded by Trustee Ganzfried, and adopted unanimously, the Board
59 authorized purchase of Tahoe Lighting from East Coase Emergency Lighting at a cost not to
60 exceed \$16,847.

61

62 PARK-POOL-TENNIS – No report

63 CABLE COMMISSION – No report
64 GNE CIVIC ASSOCIATION - No report

65
66 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

67 Member Emily Frank was present and stated they are awaiting the wood chips for Pond Park from
68 the Public Works Department.

69
70 MAYOR’S REPORT

71 Resolution designating Polling Place & Hours for the 2024 Special Election

72 On motion of Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, the Board unanimously
73 adopted the following resolution:

74 WHEREAS, pursuant to the Election Law, the Board of Trustees is required, to designate
75 the polling place for the Village election to be held on March 19, 2024, and the hours of election.

76 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the polling place for the village election to
77 be held on March 19, 2024 shall be Great Neck Estates Village Hall, 4 Atwater Plaza, Great Neck
78 Estates, New York and it is further

79 RESOLVED, that the hours of the said Village election shall be from Noon to 9 p.m.
80 inclusive.

81 Resolution appointing Election Inspectors

82 On motion of Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, the Board unanimously
83 adopted the following resolution:

84 WHEREAS, pursuant to the Election Law of the State of New York, personal registration
85 is required in the Village of Great Neck Estates for Village elections, and

86 WHEREAS, pursuant to the Election Law, the Board of Trustees is required, at least 40
87 days prior to the village election, to appoint an even number of inspectors of election, and fix their
88 compensation, and designate one of them as Chair.

89 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following persons are hereby
90 designated and appointed inspectors of election, and they shall meet on Tuesday, March 19, 2024
91 at the place designated for such Village election, between the hours of Noon and 9 p.m., inclusive,
92 for the purpose of the Village election:

93 NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	PARTY
94 Maryam Ghermezian	4 Mirrielees Rd Great Neck Estates, NY 11021	516-423-6093	Democrat
96 Delorise Stover	102 Pond Hill Rd Great Neck, NY 11020	516-495-2206 516-365-0736	Democrat (Alternate)
98 Gerald Traub	1 Kensington Gate PH-24 Great Neck, NY 11021	516-773-3319	Republican
100 Izora Freeman	101 Grandview Ave Great Neck, NY 11021	516-835-3331	Republican (Alternate)

102 AND, IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that Maryam Ghermezian be, and hereby is,
103 designated to act as Chair of said inspectors of election, and it is further

104 RESOLVED, that the compensation for each of the aforesaid inspectors of election
105 shall be \$175 for each day that said inspectors of election may be required to serve.

106 Appointment to fill unexpired term of BZA Chair

107 Mayor Warner appointed David Eshagoff to fill a vacancy in the position of Chair of the Board
108 of Appeals for the remainder of the official year. On motion of Deputy Mayor Farkas, seconded
109 by Trustee Ganzfried, and adopted unanimously, the appointment was approved.

110 BFJ Consultant Proposal

111 On motion of Deputy Mayor Farkas, seconded by Trustee Ganzfried, and adopted unanimously,
112 the Board authorized Mayor Warner to sign the revised proposal for review of the 200 MNR LLC
113 Incentive Zoning Application.

114 Village Attorney Levin will arrange a preliminary meeting for himself, the consultant, Mayor
115 Warner and Deputy Mayor Farkas, .

116 Authorize Checklist Software Maintenance Agreement

117 On motion of Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, and adopted unanimously,
118 the Board authorized Mayor Warner to sign an agreement with Arvid Associates Inc. d/b/a
119 Checklist for Building Department software at an annual cost of \$1,150, in the form approved by
120 the Village Attorney.

121 Shot Show

122 Mayor Warner stated that he would be attending the Shot Show along with three members of the
123 Police Department on January 22-24. Mayor Warner recused himself from voting on this matter.
124 In the absence of at least three Board members qualified to vote on this matter, action was deferred
125 to a later date.

126 Non-Union Employee Health Benefits

127 Mayor Warner explained that a survey had revealed that the Village’s current health benefit policy
128 requirement of 25 years of service is not aligned with other area villages and presents a hiring
129 difficulty. The proposed policy revision would lower the years of service requirement and as a off-
130 set require a 20% contribution for any non-union employees hired after January 1, 2024

131 On motion of Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, and adopted unanimously,
132 it was

133 RESOLVED, effective immediately, in addition to policies presently in effect:

134 (a) For employees first hired by the Village on or after January 1, 2003, who are not members
135 of a collective bargaining unit, who have reached the age of 60, and who retire from Village service
136 with at least fifteen years of continuous full time (as defined in the Civil Service Department
137 Regulations) service to the Village, the Village will pay 50% of the premium for coverage for
138 eligible individuals and their dependents.

139 (b) Employees first hired by the village prior to January 1, 2024 and who are not members of
140 a collective bargaining unit shall continue to be eligible to receive health insurance benefits for
141 themselves and their eligible dependents at the expense of the village in the same manner and
142 under the same terms and conditions as pertained prior to January 1, 2024.

143 (c) Employees first hired by the Village on or after January 1, 2024 and who are not members
144 of a collective bargaining unit shall be eligible to receive health insurance benefits in the New
145 York State Health Insurance Plan for themselves and their eligible dependents, provided that such
146 employees shall be required to contribute 20% of the cost of the health insurance premium for such
147 Coverage, and the Village shall pay 80% of the cost of such health insurance premium,
148 and it is further

149 RESOLVED, that all of the provisions of this resolution shall be subject to the Rules and
150 Regulations of the New York State Government Employee’s Health Insurance Program, and shall
151 not be construed to grant any benefits which are not permitted by such rules and regulations, nor
152 make any person eligible for insurance coverage or contribution where such rules and regulations
153 do not permit such coverage or contribution, and it is further

154 RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect sixty days after adoption, or sixty days after
155 filing with the New York State Department of Civil Service, whichever is later.

156 Non-Union Vacation Benefits

157 Mayor Warner explained that Board’s intention is to modify the vacation leave policy for transfer
158 employees who are not members of collective bargaining units, and who have served in the same
159 position in another municipality for 20 years.

160 On motion of Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, and adopted unanimously, it
161 was

162 RESOLVED, that effective immediately, the Board of Trustees hereby amends the Non-
163 Union Employee Benefits to provide that full time employees who are not members of collective
164 bargaining units, who immediately prior to their employment with the Village served in an
165 identical position with another municipality for a period of at least 20 consecutive years, shall be
166 entitled to annual vacation leave of 20 days per calendar year, using the anniversary date of the
167 employee’s full time employment with the Village as the first day of the calendar year.

168
169 Resident Discussion

170 Eli Nafisi of 17 Ridge Drive East, Lilia Shemesh of 99 Ash Drive and Jonathan Spielman of 88
171 Clover Drive were present. Items discussed included Village election procedure, assessments and
172 assessment grievances, and non-union employee benefits.

173
174 CLERK-TREASURER

175 Mayor Warner noted that the financial report for December 2023 had been submitted to the Board
176 and is on file and available for inspection at the Village Office. On motion offered by Mayor
177 Warner, seconded by Trustee Ganzfried, and adopted unanimously, the Board accepted the
178 December 2023 Financial Report.

179
180 MINUTES

181 Mayor Warner stated that draft minutes of December 11, 2023 meeting have been reviewed by the
182 Village Attorney. On motion offered by Mayor Warner, seconded by Trustee Ganzfried, and
183 adopted unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of December 11, 2023 as amended and
184 presented to the Board. The approved minutes are on file in the Village office.

185
186 ABSTRACTS

187 On motion offered by Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Mayor Warner, and adopted by a unanimous
188 vote, the Board ratified payment of General Abstract #202323 in the amount of \$31,719.71 for
189 contractual bills and approved the payment of claims on General Abstract #202324, in the amount
190 of \$209,369.76 for December bills and Trust Abstract #360 in the amount of \$141.60 for disability
191 premium.

192

193 2 Shore Drive Extension

194 Dr Jacob Agris of 2 Shore Drive was present to discuss his request for an extension of a building
195 permit to legalize his hot tub. Building Official Dziorney stated that a certificate of electrical
196 inspection including the hot tub and a flash drive of the final plans are required before the
197 certificate of occupancy or completion can be issued.

198 On motion of Deputy Mayor Farkas, seconded by Trustee Ganzfried, and adopted unanimously,
199 the Board voted to grant an extension of the building permit to and including March 31, 2024, on
200 condition that the applicant pay a \$500 extension fee.

201

202 There being no further business, on motion offered by Mayor Warner, seconded by Deputy Mayor
203 Farkas, and adopted by a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

204

205 Respectfully submitted,

206 Kathleen L Santelli

207 Village Administrator