

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

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4 Present: Mayor William D. Warner  
5 Deputy Mayor Jeffrey Farkas  
6 Trustee Ira Ganzfried  
7 A. Thomas Levin, Esq. Village Attorney  
8 Kathleen L Santelli, Village Administrator  
9 Excused: Trustee Howard Herschensohn  
10 Trustee Michael J. Smiley

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

13  
14 EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

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23 BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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

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29 ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

30 On motion of Trustee Ganzfried, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, and duly adopted by  
31 unanimous vote, the Board affirmed the December 21, 2023 recommendations of the ARB for  
32 approval of the following applications:  
33 Manoucher Ashourzadeh, 35 Laurel Dr, Inground pool, two pergolas, pool surround, BBQ area,  
34 stairs to basement & landscaping  
35 Yanni Ping & Jiazin Zhu, 11 Ascot Ridge, 2-story addition, new façade, front porch, exterior  
36 alterations, landscaping, etc.

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38 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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

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44 POLICE DEPARTMENT

45 Sgt. Shannon Noor was present on behalf of Chief Moreno.  
46 Mayor Warner noted that the report of Police activity for the month of December 2023 had been  
47 distributed to the Board and is on file and available for inspection at the Village Office. On motion  
48 offered by Mayor Warner, seconded by Deputy Mayor Farkas, and adopted unanimously, the  
49 Board accepted the December 2023 Police Department report.

50 Mayor Warner appointed Charles Powell as the departmental Highway Officer for calendar year  
51 2024. The appointment was approved on motion by Mayor Warner, seconded by Deputy Mayor  
52 Farkas, and adopted unanimously.

53 2023 Tahoe Lighting

54 Sgt. Noor stated that three proposals were solicited for the purchase of lighting for the new Tahoe  
55 and recommended East Coast Emergency Lighting.  
56 On motion of Mayor Warner, seconded by Trustee Ganzfried, and adopted unanimously, the Board  
57 authorized purchase of Tahoe Lighting from East Coase Emergency Lighting at a cost not to  
58 exceed \$16,847.

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60 PARK-POOL-TENNIS – No report

61 CABLE COMMISSION – No report

62 GNE CIVIC ASSOCIATION - No report

63 Board of Trustees  
64 2024 January 8

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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.

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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.

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Non-Union Employee Health Benefits

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Non-Union Vacation Benefits

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

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

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

Resident Discussion

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

CLERK-TREASURER

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

MINUTES

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

188 Board of Trustees  
189 2024 January 8  
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191 ABSTRACTS

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

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198 2 Shore Drive Extension

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

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

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

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210 Respectfully submitted,  
211 Kathleen L Santelli  
212 Village Administrator