

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 24, 2023 - 7:00 PM
Virtual Webex Meeting

To access information on how to use WebEx to join the meeting, please click on the following link: <https://www.southorange.org/800/WebEx-FAQs>

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call Meeting to Order

Acting President Jones called the meeting to order at approximately 6:15pm:

2. Roll Call

Village President Collum - Absent
Trustee Brown
Trustee Coalier
Trustee Haskins
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton
Trustee Jones
Trustee Schnall
Ms. Doran, Acting Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Village Clerk

3. Meeting Notice Statement

Village Clerk Davis read the following statement:

In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the official newspapers of the Village, posted on the Village's website and filed in the Office of the Village Clerk indicating that this meeting is being held virtually via Cisco WebEx video conferencing. During a remote meeting, participants, including members of the public may be muted by the host. However, there will be an opportunity for them to participate and speak during the public portion of the meeting where participants will be unmuted at their request. Official action may be taken.

4. Resolution to go into Executive Session

2023-114 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the April 24, 2023,



Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception) Executive Session

- Contract Negotiation (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)

Trustee Schnall moved to approve Resolution 2023-114 seconded by Trustee Hilton. All members were in favor and none opposed.

5. **Reconvene into Open Session**

President Collum reconvened the meeting at approximately 7pm:

ROLL CALL Village President Collum
Trustee Brown
Trustee Coalier
Trustee Haskins
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton
Trustee Jones
Trustee Schnall
Ms. Doran, Acting Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Village Clerk

6. **Announcements**

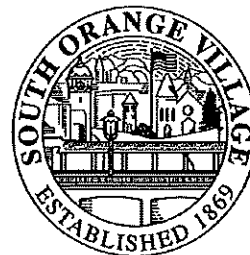
President Collum read the following announcements:

A. **Water Department - Low Income Home Water Assistance Program**

The Department of Community Affairs has a Low Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). This is a federally funded program designed to help low-income households reduce the balances they have on their residential water and wastewater bills. Eligibility and application details can be found on the news feed of our website, southorange.org, or by calling 1 800- 510-3102, Mon.- Sat. 8:00 am – 8:00 pm for further information.

B. **River Day 2023 – Good, Clean, Fun – Sunday, May 7th!**

South Orange River Day is an annual community gathering to clean up our section of the Rahway River while celebrating environmental awareness and education. Now in our 13th year with music from DJ Preston Olson and Friends, student scientists of South Orange Middle School, and more! Pre-registration in advance is encouraged and can be done on the SOEC [website](http://southorange.org).



Check in on Sunday, May 7th, 2023, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (Rain Date May 14th) at the Skate House by the pond in Meadowland Park (off Mead St.) in South Orange. For updates, including Rain Date notification, follow the SOEC on Facebook or Instagram @sogreenteam or our website at <https://sogreenteam.wordpress.com/>

C. **Schedule Your Water Meter Upgrade Today!**

To help ensure the accuracy of our water meters, we must periodically change them. There is no cost to residents to have this work performed but the installation requires access to your basement or utility room. MeterTekUtility Services, Inc, our subcontractor, will perform this service. Appointments are necessary, so please schedule your appointment today by calling 800.717.0974 or by visiting SouthOrange.org to access the online appointment scheduler.

D. **Friends of the South Orange Public Library**

The Spring Jewelry Sale at the South Orange Public Library is coming up! 10am - 5pm, Saturday May 6th and 1pm - 4pm, Sunday May 7th. Pick up a special something for mothers and others, for your friends, and for yourself, and support the South Orange Public Library at the same time. Go to [the Friends of the South Orange Public Library page](https://SouthOrange.org) under [SOPL.org](https://SouthOrange.org).

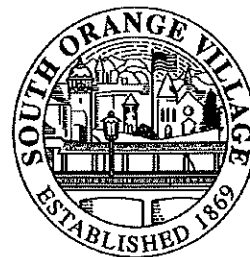
Additional announcements:

Trustee Jones mentioned the Community Relation Committee is starting their 1st newcomers meet and greet on May 11th. They have partnered with Neighbors Wine. Residents who have moved to South Orange within the past 6 months will receive an invitation in the form of a postcard for the event

Trustee Schnall announced Art Bender will be on June 18th in the Seton Village area.

Trustee Coalier discussed the community garden sponsored by Rent Party at the Elks Lodge where volunteers from the Carpenters' Union tore down and rebuilt some of the old rotted garden bed structures.

President Collum gave a shout out to the Holocaust Remembrance Committee who did a wonderful job at the Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel this past weekend.



Sunday, April 30th, the South Orange Rescue Squad is having a 5k run. To participate, please visit their website to sign up.

7. Board of Health

- A. Recess meeting of the Board of Trustees and convene as the Board of Health.

Trustee Coalier moved to recess the meeting of the Board of Trustees and convene as the Board of Health, seconded by Trustee Schnall. All members were in favor and none opposed.

Roll Call:

Board Member Brown
Board Member Collum
Board Member Haskins
Board Member Hartshorn Hilton
Board Member Jones
Board Member Schnall
Board President Coalier

Board President Coalier called the meeting of the Board of Health to order. Ms. Candice Davenport, Health Officer discussed the following:

- SOMA TFAA's Conversations of Your Life movie screening and discussion, May 15th
- Animal control Bloomfield monthly update -March
- Communicable & Infectious Disease and COVID updates - federal public health emergency executive order to end May 11th
- Health Screenings
- SOMA TIFAA's Conversation of Your Life move screening and discussion, May 15th at 6:30pm at the Woodland's in Maplewood.
- Environmental Health inspection updates

Also, Ms. Davenport discussed the rules and regulations for feeding cats in South Orange.

The April's Board of Health presentation can be found on the Health Department page of the Village's website.



Board of Health Resolution for Approval:

- 2023-BOH01 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION REINSTATING PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITY FUNDING

Ms. Collum moved to adopt Resolution 2023-BOH01, seconded by Ms. Hilton.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Brown	Yes
Ms. Coalier	Yes
Ms. Collum	Yes
Mr. Haskins	Yes
Ms. Hilton	Yes
Ms. Jones	Yes
Mr. Schnall	Yes

There being no further discussion, Ms. Collum moved to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Health, seconded by Ms. Jones. President Collier adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:20 pm.

Reconvened as Board of Trustees and all members are still present

8. Proclamations

- A. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE (CASA) OF ESSEX COUNTY :

President Collum read the proclamation recognizing and proclaiming April 2023 as CASA child advocate month.

- B. PROCLAMATION HONORING JUNIOR CITIZENS AND RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF MAY 1-7, 2023, AS "YOUTH WEEK":

President Collum read the proclamation honoring Junior Citizens and recognizing the first week in May as Youth week.

9. Public Comment

President Collum opened meeting for public comment:

Ms. Isabella resident of South Orange mentioned on the Resolution approving salaries, the highest paid was the Police Chief and the Deputy Police Chief.



Ms. Alisa Aronson resident of South Orange discussed some concerns with the steps at the train station.

In response to the public comments, President Collum provided some context to the increases and explained the police department salaries are consistent with surrounding towns throughout Essex County. In regards to the train station which is owned and operated by NJ Transit, President Collum asked Ms. Doran to reach out to NJ Transit as they are responsible for any maintenance issues at the station.

10. Approval of Minutes

A. The Village Clerk is requesting the Board's approval of the minutes for the following meetings:

- Regular meeting held on April 10, 2023 (Trustee Coalier is ineligible to vote)

Trustee Hilton moved to approve the minutes of April 10, 2023, seconded by Trustee Schnall.

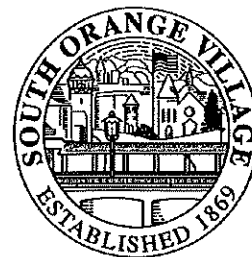
Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Abstained
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes

Motion carried.

11. Resolutions for Consent Agenda

- A. 2023-115 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING THE HIRING OF A POLICE OFFICER FOR THE SOUTH ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT
- B. 2023-116 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME, SEASONAL EMPLOYEE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- C. 2023-117 RESOLUTION SETTING 2023 SALARIES FOR CERTAIN NON-UNION AND SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL
- D. 2023-118 RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 3-6 OF THE VILLAGE CODE APPOINTING JULIE DORAN TO THE POSITION OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR



- E. 2023-119 RESOLUTION APPOINTING PETER TRAVERS AS DEPUTY VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND SETTING SALARY AT \$120,000 ANNUALLY
- F. 2023-120 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF A RECREATION LEADER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- G. 2023-121 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF A RECREATION LEADER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- H. 2023-122 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #3 - FOR ELEVATED TECHNOLOGIES, INC., DBA METRO ELEVATOR TO UPGRADE ELEVATOR ADD FOR STANDBY AND OVERHEAD COSTS FOR NEW ELEVATOR INTERIORS AND CLAD THE FRONTS IN ELEVATOR FOR THE LIBRARY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,925.00

Trustee Schnall moved to adopt Resolutions #2023-115 through #2023-122 with the exception of Resolutions #2023-118 & #2023-119 voted separately, seconded by Trustee Jones.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes

Motion carried.

Resolutions for Separate Action:

2023-119 RESOLUTION APPOINTING PETER TRAVERS AS DEPUTY VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND SETTING SALARY AT \$120,000 ANNUALLY

Trustee Schnall moved to adopt Resolutions #2023-119, seconded by Trustee Jones.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes

Motion carried.



2023-118 RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 3-6 OF THE VILLAGE
CODE APPOINTING JULIE DORAN TO THE POSITION OF VILLAGE
ADMINISTRATOR

Trustee Schnall moved to adopt Resolutions #2023-118, seconded by
Trustee Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Motion carried.	

12. Approval of Bills

- A. Trustee Hartshorn Hilton, Chair of the Finance and Capital Projects Committee presents the Bills List audited by the Village Treasurer dated April 24, 2023. The Board of Trustees has been provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2023-123 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE
ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH APRIL 24, 2023 IN
THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$18,316,338.12

Trustee Hilton moved to adopt Resolutions #2023-123, seconded by
Trustee Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Motion carried.	

13. Village President Report

President Collum discussed the following:

- Board of School Estimate meeting schedule for May 3rd at the District office. The discussion topic will be restoring some courtesy busing for



the students

- There is a spike in motor vehicle theft and reminded residents to lock their car doors
- Brief update on the Energy Tax Receipts and South Orange is owed over \$2 million dollars a year
- On the Liquor License Reform, progress is being made with Governor Murphy releasing his proposal which would phase out the population cap over the next 5 years
- Development Committee is meeting back in person. The next meeting may consist of a walkthrough of all the development projects
- This past weekend the Underhill field reopened
- There will be a series of ribbon cuttings on Friday, April 28th starting at noon with Gift Depot, Sadie's Kitchen a la Mode on Sloan Street then the new Kitchen a la Mode location
- Currently, there are some issues with student housing such as noise, littering and disruptions in the neighborhoods that are unacceptable. Ms. Doran will be reviewing all ordinances with legal counsel to find better ways for accountability.

14. Village Administrator Report – Ms. Doran mentioned that May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and the Library and Seton Hall University will be hosting events. On May 3rd, Seton Hall will host a Lunch & Learn at 12 noon at the University Center on mention health care. Also, South Orange will be celebrating Juneteenth on Friday, June 16th.

15. Village Counsel Report – There was no report.

16. Trustee Reports

- A. Trustee Brown - There was no report.
- B. Trustee Coalier - There was no report.
- C. Trustee Haskins – On Saturday, April 29th, Morrow Church in Maplewood will have the repair café where you can bring your broken items such as lamps and woodworks.
- D. Trustee Hartshorn Hilton mentioned the Library planning is underway for the construction project and the staff is getting ready to move to a temporary location. She will have more details to come in the future.
- E. Trustee Jones - There was no report.



F. Trustee Schnall - There was no report.

17. Public Comment

President Collum opened the meeting for public comment:
There were no questions or comments from the public.

18. New Business

There was no new business. Trustees Jones mentioned the Municipal Elections is on Tuesday, May 9th.

19. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, President Collum adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:40 pm.

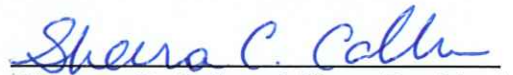
***These minutes are a summary and the actual statements can be found on the video located on the Village's website at the following link:**

<https://southorangetwpnj.portal.civicclerk.com/event/1928/media>

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHORANGEVILLAGE


Ojetti E. Davis, Village Clerk


Sheena C. Collum, Village President