

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 26, 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

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

2. Roll Call

Village President Collum
Trustee Brown
Trustee Greenberg
Trustee Haskins
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton - Absent
Trustee Jones
Trustee Lewis-Chang
Ms. Doran, Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Village Clerk

3. Meeting Notice Statement

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

2023-301 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the September 26, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception)



Executive Session

- General Redevelopment (Contract Negotiation & Attorney/Client Privilege Matters)
- South Essex Fire Department (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
- Police Department (Personnel Matters/Contract Negotiation)
- Water Utility (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter & Contract Negotiation)

Trustee Jones moved to approve Resolution 2023-301, seconded by Trustee Greenberg. All members were in favor and none opposed.

5. **Reconvene into Open Session**

President Collum reconvened the meeting at approximately 7:00 pm:

ROLL CALL Village President Collum
Trustee Brown
Trustee Greenberg
Trustee Haskins
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton - Absent
Trustee Jones
Trustee Lewis-Chang
Ms. Doran, Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel - Absent
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Village Clerk

6. **Announcements**

President Collum read the following announcement:

A. **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. MeterTek Utility 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.

B. **Community Day**

The South Orange Community Relations Committee and the Board of



Trustees invite all South Orange residents to Community Day 2023 on Sunday, October 8 from 1 to 3pm at the Meadowland Park Skate House. It's your chance to connect with your community organizations, volunteers, Village government and Village staff, all while enjoying food, activities and your neighbors.

C. **Hola Fest**

Hola Fest Returns on Saturday, October 14 from 4 to 8pm on Irvington Avenue in Seton Village. This event merges the popular Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival with Hola Fest, a cultural event celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. You'll find local restaurant offerings, food trucks, a beer garden and a full array of music and performances, along with activities for the kids.

D. **Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs**

Watershed Literary Event, Sunday, Oct 15, 2023 3:00 pm, Skate House

The spoken word series features the work of both emerging and established writers with a connection to New Jersey. October's featured poets: Marina Carreira, Ben Purkert, and Soraya Shalforoosh.

Corn Hole-O-Ween, Saturday, Oct 28, 2023 2:30 pm, Skate House

Challenge your friends and neighbors at the 2023 Cornhole-O-Ween Tournament! Prizes will be awarded for best costumes & SOMA Brewing Co. will feature tasty brews at the Beer Garden.

Love My Park! Saturday, Nov 28, 2023 5:30-7:00 pm, Flood's Hill

Celebrate Meadowland Park with music, dancing, a light-up art project and fireworks! (Meadowland Park Conservancy will also have an anniversary reception for MPC members from 4:30-5:30pm at the Skate House.)

E. **South Orange Downtown**

FALL FESTIVAL - South Orange Downtown is excited to kick off the fall season with a special Downtown on Display Fall Festival for kids of all ages to enjoy. Join South Orange Downtown in Spiotta Park on Sunday, October 1st from 11am to 1pm for pumpkin picking and decorating with Oh! Canary and Sparkhouse Toys, sensory activities with the Little Brain Lab, a sewing craft with SewLeana, fairy hair with YK Salon, sidewalk chalk with Best in Class, story time with the South Orange Public Library and lots of oversized games. In the event of rain, this event will be moved indoors to the South Orange Public Library.

FASHION SHOW - October is National Disability Employment



Awareness Month. As part of a special Downtown on Display, join us in Spiotta Park on Thursday, October 5th from 6 to 7:30pm for a fashion show featuring JESPY clients modeling fall fashions from Sadie's and fabulous hair from YK Salon. Small bites and refreshments will be provided by Miti Miti and Three Daughters Bakery, plus a cash bar provided by Jespy House. The rain date for this event is Thursday, October 12th.

Downtown on Display is a South Orange Downtown program which focuses on spotlighting the amazing small businesses located in the downtown district. The goal is to have you experience South Orange Downtown and everything it has to offer. Visit southorangedowntown.org to learn more.

FARMERS MARKET - The South Orange Farmers Market continues every Wednesday from 2-7pm through November 1. Visit the market weekly to get your Jersey Fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, apple cider, baked goods and so much more.

HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL - Join us on Sunday, October 29th from 11am-1pm in Spooky Spiotta for our annual Halloween event including a costume contest with prizes, interactive games, entertainment by Wanda the Witch, trick or treat stations and more! This event is made possible thanks to our generous presenting sponsor Natalie Farrell of Weichert Realtors and supporting sponsor, Sparkhouse Toys

7. **Board of Health**

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

Trustee Lewis-Chang moved to recess the meeting of the Board of Trustees and convene as the Board of Health, seconded by Trustee Haskins.

Voice Vote:

Roll Call:

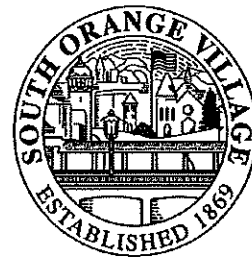
Board Member Brown

Board Member Collum

Board Member Greenberg

Board Member Haskins

Board Member Hartshorn Hilton



Board Member Jones
Board President Lewis-Chang

Ms. Candice Davenport, Health Officer discussed the following:

- Health Officer's Report
 - South Orange Community Health Fair held on September 9th. This Health Fair provided screenings for Stroke Risk and Blood Pressure, HIV testing, Influenza & Covid-19 vaccines and Narcan distributions.
- Nursing/ Communicable Diseases August & September Report
 - New COVID vaccination update
 - Flu and RSV Vaccine Update
- Environmental Health September Report:
 - Restaurant inspections: 0
 - Re-inspections: 0
 - Mobile food truck inspections: 1
 - School inspections: 8
 - Daycare inspections: 0
 - Camps: 0
 - Animal bites: 0
 - Complaints: 4
 - NOVs: 5
 - Summonses: 5
- Animal Control July & August Report
- Social Services Report

The full Board of Health presentation can be found on the Village's website at: <https://southorange.org/167/Health-and-Animal-Control>

There being no further discussion, Mr. Brown moved to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Health, seconded by Ms. Collum. President Lewis-Chang adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 pm.

Reconvened as Board of Trustees and all members are still present

8. Public Comment

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

9. Approval of Minutes

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



the following meeting:

- Regular meeting held on September 11, 2023 (All Trustees are eligible to vote)

Trustee Lewis-Chang moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 11th, seconded by Trustee Greenberg.

Roll Call:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Greenberg	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

10. Resolutions for Consent Agenda

- A. 2023-302 RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES' RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF THE 2022 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT
- B. 2023-303 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME SEASONAL EMPLOYEES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
- C. 2023-304 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE 2022 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT
- D. 2023-305 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #64 - FOR FRANKOSKI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR ADDITIONAL COSTS TO COVER ADDITIONAL LABOR, MATERIALS AND/OR EQUIPMENT TO PROVIDE AND INSTALL ELECTRICAL POWER TO SUMP PIT PUMP CONTROLLERS IN SHAFTS OF BOTH ELEVATORS NOT TO EXCEED \$1,988.18 TO THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT
- E. 2023-306 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION NJSA 40A:4-87 - STORMWATER ASSISTANT GRANT
- F. 2023-307 RESOLUTION CORRECTING AND AMENDING RESOLUTION #2023-290 TO CHANGE START DATE FOR FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST KENNETH SCHMERTZ TO OCTOBER 2, 2023
- G. 2023-308 RESOLUTION CORRECTING AND AMENDING RESOLUTION #2023-291 TO CHANGE THE ANNUAL SALARY PAYABLE TO DEPUTY CHIEF STEPHEN DOLINAC FROM \$192,000 TO \$192,500



- H. 2023-309 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR FALL TREE PLANTING TO SJC LAWN CARE INC. IN THE VILLAGE IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$62,475.00
- I. 2023-310 RESOLUTION REJECTING ALL PUBLIC BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE RIVER GREENWAY BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE AND PATHWAY PROJECT
- J. 2023-311 RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE EXPRESSING NO CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ TO SERVE HIS CONSTITUENTS AND DEMANDING HIS IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION

Trustee Jones moved to adopt Resolutions 2023-302 through 2023-310, seconded by Trustee Haskins.

Roll Call:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Greenberg	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

Resolution for separate action:

Trustee Jones moved to adopt Resolution 2023-311, seconded by Trustee Lewis-Chang.

Roll Call:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Greenberg	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

11. 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 September 26, 2023. The Board of Trustees has been provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.



2023-312 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE
ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH SEPTEMBER 26, 2023
IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$12,148,891.82

Trustee Brown moved to adopt Resolution 2023-312, seconded by
Trustee Greenberg.

Roll Call:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Greenberg	Yes
Trustee Haskins	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Lewis-Chang	Yes

Motion carried.

12. Village President Report

President Collum discussed the South Orange Police Department August 2023 Part 1 Crime Statistics Report. The report breaks down the statistics from 2019 to 2023 and includes homicides, rape, assault, burglary, theft, MV theft and arson. She mentioned the SOPD will be providing a series of services free of charge such as installing security systems. Information on these services will be found on the website in the coming months.

13. Village Administrator Report – There was no report.

14. Village Counsel Report – There was no report.

15. Trustee Reports

- A. Trustee Brown – There was no report.
- B. Trustee Greenberg – There was no report.
- C. Trustee Haskins discussed a project that happened at Meadowland's Park by the pond over the weekend. A Boy Scout by the name Aiden Sheridan as part of his Eagle Scout project excavated the asphalt in the area around the memorial rock and is replacing it with Belgian blocks. There is a plan to have a ceremony in this location on November 11th Veteran's Day, save the date!
- D. Trustee Hartshorn Hilton - Absent
- E. Trustee Jones mentioned Community Day is happening on Sunday, October 8th 1-3pm and postcards are going out to new residents.



F. Trustee Lewis-Chang – There was no report.

16. Public Comment

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

17. New Business

There was no new business discussed.

18. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, President Collum adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:50 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://southorangenetwpnj.portal.civicclerk.com/event/2340/media>

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHORANGEVILLAGE


Ojetti E. Davis, Village Clerk


Sheena C. Collum, Village President