

**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 25, 2021**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Village President Collum called the regular meeting of the Township of South Orange Board of Trustees to order on Monday, January 25, 2021 at approximately 6:15 pm in a Virtual WebEx meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Village President Collum, Trustee Clarke, Trustee Coalier, Trustee Hilton, Trustee Jones, Trustee Schnall, Trustee Zuckerman, Mr. Loehner Village Administrator, Mr. Rother Village Counsel, Mr. Otis Counsel, Ms. Davis Acting Village Clerk

MEETING NOTICE STATEMENT

Ms. Davis read the following statement:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the press in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6. In addition, notice of this meeting was posted in Village Hall and on the Village's website, and has been filed in the Office of the Village Clerk. Official action may be taken.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

2021-013 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the January 25, 2021, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees

President Collum stated the board would be discussing redevelopment and contract negotiations.

Trustee Schnall moved to approve Resolution 2021-013, seconded by Trustee Hilton. All Trustees were in favor and none opposed.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

ROLL CALL:

Present: Village President Collum, Trustee Clarke, Trustee Coalier, Trustee Hartshorn, Trustee Hilton, Trustee Jones, Trustee Schnall, Trustee Zuckerman, Mr. Loehner Village Administrator, Mr. Otis Counsel, Ms. Davis Acting Village Clerk
Absent: Mr. Rother Village Counsel

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Collum read the following announcements:

Importance of continuing to follow the COVID-19 Emergency Precautions - As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause us all health concerns and inconvenience; it is critical that we continue to follow the emergency mandates put in place at the various levels of government. Please continue to wear your face masks when out in public, always maintain six feet of distance, avoid large gatherings, wash your hands frequently, and quarantine for 14 days if returning from a location that has a travel advisory.

The Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Spring baseball registration for players ages 5 -15 is open to all South Orange and Maplewood residents. Please visit our website for additional information and registration. Registration closes January 31st.

The 2021 recreation and cultural affairs membership is available for purchase. The recreation membership provides discounts on select programs, discounted use of tennis courts and access to the community pool. For additional information please visit our website.

The department has partnered with Sing for Hope to provide daily virtual concerts and activities for local seniors. The link and calendar of events is located on the department website. Anyone interested in additional information can find the link on the website or can call the recreation office.

2021 Municipal Election Candidate Packets

The next Municipal Election is Tuesday, May 11, 2021. South Orange residents interested in running for the Board of Trustees in the May 11, 2021 Municipal Election must be a registered voter in the Township of south Orange Village and have been a resident of the Township for at least 1 year. Three seats will be open for a four-year term.

Candidate packets are now available. The deadline for submitting a complete candidate packet to be on the ballot is March 8, 2021. To receive a candidate packet, please send an email request to Clerksoffice@southorange.org and in the subject line: 2021 Municipal Candidate Packet Request. Any questions can be directed to the Village Clerks Office at 973-378-7715 ext. 1.

Volunteers Calls for the Community Police Collaborative (CPC) Committee

The Community Police Collaborative (CPC) is looking to fill two open Volunteer positions. The CPC advises the South Orange Village Board of Trustees on matters relating to its oversight of the Police Department. It also works to improve the relationship between the Department and South Orange residents and visitors. Its main areas of focus include raising awareness of and reducing bias; reducing frivolous calls to the police; working toward non-police responses to calls for service; making sure the values of the community and the Police Department are aligned; and monitoring the Department's uses of force. The CPC has three permanent subcommittees and one ad hoc subcommittee addressing department community outreach, training, data & analytics, and code review, respectively. Members are expected to attend monthly meetings, volunteer on at least one subcommittee, and commit to studying materials related to the work of the CPC as necessary. To submit an application, please use the following link: <http://southorange.org/374/Volunteering>.

Black History Month Celebration

Come celebrate Black History Month with South Orange! During the month of February, South Orange will be hosting and promoting events for Black History Month that is collaboration between different residents, organizations, and community members. This year's theme is The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity and its focus will be honoring the past and current residents of the black community.

As we are working to celebrate Black History Month under unusual circumstances, we will celebrate it for 2021 by offering a mix of events including virtual panel discussions, podcasts, and pre-recorded presentations. We will also have a few self-paced outdoor exhibits. Keep your eye out for updates to South Orange's Black History Month and social media throughout the month. The website located at <http://www.southorange.org/786/Black-History-Month>.

Additional Trustee Announcements:

Trustee Clarke discussed some changes with the Energy Aggregation. A new meeting scheduled for February 18, 2021 at 7pm. Residents will receive a letter in the mail to opt sometime in February.

Trustee Zuckerman wanted to remind the residents that the parking lot behind the South Orange Square is closed and will remain closed for about a year. Also, reminded the residents that comments and feedback for the Master Plan are due March 1st.

VILLAGER OF THE MONTH

January 2021 Presentation and Proclamation - Our Lady of Sorrows Food Pantry

Trustee Jones shared a short video of the Our Lady of Sorrows Food Pantry. The pantry is open every 2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month. Trustee Hilton read the proclamation and Kate Schmidt from Director of Recreation was present to represent the Food Pantry. Ms. Schmidt thanked the Village President and Trustees on behalf of the Our Lady of Sorrow Food Pantry.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were several members of the public who expressed their concerns regarding the proposed demolition and subdivision of 167 North Ridgewood Road and stated being in favor of the Historic Preservation Commission request to designate the property as a local landmark. President Collum thanked the developer of the property for allowing the Trustees and the public to tour their private property and mentioned the developer has done everything he needed to do as far as filing permits and going before the Planning Board. She explained due to the timing of filing the application, the Village would face a legal battle if they were to try to retroactively designate the private property that wasn't in place at the time of the developer purchased the property and filed an application before the Planning Board. Mr. Otis stated strongly advised the board to be very careful with regards to any legal action to the property that was not designated prior to the purchase and filing an application the Planning Board, it would be viewed in bad faith.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Coallier moved to approve the minutes of June 10, 2019, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Abstain
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Abstain
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

Trustee Coallier moved to approve the minutes of June 24, 2019, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

Trustee Coallier moved to approve the minutes of November 3, 2020, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Abstain
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Abstain
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

Trustee Coallier moved to approve the minutes November 9, 2020, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

2021-01 Ordinance Amending and Restating the Cost of Water as set forth in Chapter 351, Section 15 of the Code of the Township of South Orange Village

Trustee Clarke moved to approve Ordinance 2021-01 for first reading, seconded by Trustee Hilton.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	No
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

2021-02 Ordinance Amending Ordinances 2018-05, 2018-07, 2018-09, 2018-12 and 2020-19 for inclusion in the Township of South Orange Village Code

Trustee Zuckerman moved to approve Ordinance 2021-02 for first reading, seconded by Trustee Hilton.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	No
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Abstain
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

Trustee Clarke moved that the Public Hearing for Ordinance #2021-01 and #2021-02 shall be at the Board of Trustees Meeting on Monday, February 22, 2021 beginning at 7:00 PM. On that date, the Board may take further action. The Village Clerk is directed to see that the Ordinance is published in the Official Newspaper and posted in an open place in the Municipal Offices. The motion was seconded by Trustee Schnall. All members were in favor and none opposed.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING

2020-26 Ordinances to Amend the Code Section 340-10 Prohibiting Parking on certain areas of Valley Street at the intersection of Hixon Place

President Collum mentioned the board has received some correspondence from an attorney representing a business owner in the area who stated their site plan was approved with the condition of that parking. The Village Council recommends some further review before taking legal action.

Trustee Coallier moved to table Ordinance 2020-26 for second reading, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
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Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2021-014 Resolution Authorizing Hiring of Part-Time Crossing Guards
2021-015 Resolution Appointing Scott Clauss as Part-Time Multiple Dwelling Inspector
2021-016 Appointing Thomas Atwell as Part-Time Fire Inspector
2021-018 Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of a Part-Time Employee in Clerk's Office
2021-019 Resolution Approving Memorandum of Understanding by and between Township of South Orange Village and Seton Hall University Permitting Dr. Juan A. Rios, Jr. to serve as Project Director for the South Orange Care & Community Justice Project
2021-020 Resolution Awarding Contract for Plumbing Services to Thomas O'Neill Plumbing

Trustee Schnall moved to approved Resolutions #2021-014 through #2021-016 and Resolution 2021-18 through 2021-020, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

Resolutions on for Separate Action

2021-017 Resolution Designating Continental Resources (CONRES) as Vendor and Installer for all Networking and Server Related CISCO Products for 2021

Trustee Zuckerman moved to table Resolution 2021-017, seconded by Trustee Schnall. All members were in favor.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	No
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2021-011 Resolution Authorizing and filing of community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding for Program Year 2021

There were no public comments or questions. There was no further action needed as this resolution was approved at the last meeting.

Board of Health

Trustee Hilton moved to recess the meeting of Board of Trustees and convene as the Board of Health, seconded by Trustee Jones. All members were in favor.

Roll Call: Board Member Clarke
Board Member Collum
Board Member Hartshorn Hilton
Board Member Jones
Board Member Schnall
Board Member Zuckerman
Board President Coalier

Announcement

Walgreens has been tapped to provide COVID vaccines to those in the community that are bedridden. If you or someone you know needs this support, please reach out to Walgreens directly, or to Mr. Scott Egelberg at (973) 378-7715 ext. 7700.

Board Members have been provided with the monthly report for January 2021 from John M. Festa, M.A., Health Officer. Mr. Festa discussed his monthly report and gave an update on the positive and negative covid case in South Orange. Also, he discussed was the rat issue on South Orange Avenue due to the construction.

There being no further discussion, Ms. Collum moved to adjourn as the Board of Health to reconvene as the Board of Trustees, seconded by Ms. Jones. All members were in favor.

Reconvened as Board of Trustees and all members are still present

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Trustee Hartshorn Hilton, Chair of the Finance and Capital Projects Committee presents the Bills List audited by the Village Treasurer dated January 25, 2021. The Board of Trustees has been provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2021-021 Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills and the Issuance of Checks for the period through January 25, 2021 in the total amount of \$6,577,295.95

Trustee Hilton moved to approve Resolution #2021-021, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Clarke Yes

Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

President Collum briefly discussed the ongoing redevelopment projects. Also, she encourage the public to be mindful of each other and supportive as many residents maybe experiencing stress, anxiety, loss of a loved one and parents that have children going through social and emotional trauma of being isolated for such a long period. President Collum also discussed the alarming numbers of the covid vaccines and the disproportion of the black and Hispanic residents receiving the vaccine and sees it as a call for action. She asked that the public assist in helping someone that maybe less fortunate to get signed up to receive the vaccine.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Loehner discussed the proposed capital budget and currently working on the operating budget. He is open to board discussion on the budget and plans to make the document public so the residents can see and provide comment. The board discussed a generator for DPW, budget calendar due dates, 5 year capital plan, River Greenway and over time.

VILLAGE COUNSEL REPORT

There was no report from the Village Counsel

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Coallier discussed the 211 cybercrime reporting partnership and the year end police reporting. She announced commendations as it relates to zero absentees in the department of public safety.

Trustee Jones gave the following updates:

- Black History Month – Collaborating with SOPAC is currently airing 2 movies on their website and the cost is \$12. A portion of the cost will go to SOPAC.
- Carter Park – discussed and displayed the proposed playground and the different layouts
- Village Spotlight Initiative – The Community Relation Committee is launching new initiative to focus on businesses outside of the South Orange Village Center Alliance area to put a spotlight on them.

Trustee Schnall discussed the following:

- Village Communications – Discussed the new Village Seal seen on the agendas
- Community Board formation – Planning for first meeting in March or early April

- Digital Kiosk – The SPACE committee is hoping to complete in the next few months and asking for any potential sponsors or ways to get through the capital required finance to please reach out to him.
- New Arts Mural in Spiotta Park and the next one will be on Valley Street
- SOVCA – Announced 2 downtown awards: the Fox & Falcon for their outdoor dining and SOVCA received first place for their winter small organization for the holiday lights and the outdoor holiday market
- Julie Doran has been appointed to Village's New Deputy Administrator and Melissa Hodge will be the Acting Executive Director for SOVCA. Ms. Hodge has worked for SOVCA for over 6 years and everyone is excited for her new role.
- SOPAC – Discussed Virtual Program and renting spaces for the kitchen, loft and the moving theater. For more information, contact Dee Billia Acting Director.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Trustee Jones moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:55pm, seconded by Trustee Hilton. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, February 8, 2021.

Approved Minutes: March 8, 2021

ATTEST:


Ojetta E. Davis, Acting Village Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE


Sheena C. Collum, Village President

***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.civicclerk.com/Web/Player.aspx?id=28&key=-1&mod=-1&mk=-1&nov=0>