

**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 22, 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, February 22, 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 had been provided to the press in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A 10:4-6 and in consideration of Executive Order No. 103, issued by Governor Murphy on March 9, 2020, declaring a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency in the State of New Jersey. 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. 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. Ojetti E. Davis, Acting Village Clerk.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

2021-030 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the February 22, 2021, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

President Collum stated the board would be discussing the following:

- Water discussion (attorney/client privilege)
- Redevelopment updates (contract negotiation)
- Shared Services Contracts (attorney/client privilege)

Trustee Schnall moved to approve Resolution 2021-030, seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees were in favor and none opposed.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Trustee Schnall, 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.

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) Committee advises South Orange Village elected officials on matters relating to Public Safety oversight. It also works to improve the relationship between the Police 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. Please click on the following link to submit an application:

<http://southorange.org/374/Volunteering>

Recreation and Cultural Affairs Announcements:

Registration for Spring Flag Football is open for all South Orange Maplewood residents ages 8-15. The program will be held on Sundays starting April 10th. The registration information can be found on the department's web page.

Registration for the Summer Playground Camp will open March 1st at 9:00 AM. Registration is

open to South Orange residents that have a current 2021 recreation membership. Registration and additional information can be found on the recreation department's web page.

The Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs is looking for field maintenance workers, lifeguards, camp staff and pool staff. Applications can be found on the Village's website.

Black History Month

As Black History Month comes to a close at the end of this week, the Township of South Orange Village would like to thank our Black History Month Committee and the members of our community who have taken part in the events. As a reminder, this last week is still filled with more surprises.

- On Thursday, February 25th at 7 pm, we have our panel discussion on Sports and Social Change, Part 2 moderated by Bobby Brown, Chair of our Community Police Collaborative, and panelists Coach Lisa Morgan, Former CHS track coach, CHS Graduate and Team USA Track Runner, Olivia Baker and Lisa Charles, Health & Wellness Speaker and Consultant and Coach.
- In Meadowland Park, closer to the Mead Street side, we have launched our art exhibit titled, "Strength in Creativity" which has 15 local residents.
- Our last Erasing South Orange Borders presented by Erasing Essex's Borders will be held this Saturday, February 27th at 1:00 PM.
- On Sunday, February 28th, we will host a Black Health Matters COVID 19 Vaccines and the Black Community panel discussion that is open to the public and your friends at 4:30 pm. This is in conjunction with the Community Coalition on Race as part of their Coffee House Series.

As always, we have launched our last Monday podcast launch and will have a Wednesday children's book lists, and Storytime Saturdays. For a full list of events our events and community events, please go to <http://www.southorange.org/786/Black-History-Month>.

Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month and South Orange is partnering with Maplewood for a series of events to celebrate women. On Tuesday, March 2 at 7:30 PM, head over the Maplewood Town Council meeting to watch the past and present elected officials issue a Proclamation opening up this month. Additionally, we are going virtual with our SOMA "Wear White for Women" Group Photo by hosting a virtual conversation on Thursday, March 4th at 6:00 PM. To see a full lineup, please head over to somawomen.org

Community Care & Justice Program - Save the Date!

On March 7 at 7p we will host a virtual Town Hall meeting to kick off the Community Care & Justice program and to gather community input on topics of interest for our program survey and focus group outreach. Join with your whole family - youth outreach and dialogue is an

important part of our CC&J mission. Don't miss this launch of our exciting new Community Care & Justice program!

Energy Aggregation

New Municipal Energy Aggregation contract offers 40% or 100% renewable electricity supply to residents.

Residents of South Orange must opt-out or opt-up by March 7.

South Orange has once again joined together with several other towns as the Sustainable Essex Alliance (SEA) to put their collective purchasing power to work to provide greener electricity to residents at competitive, if not lower, prices.

SEA member towns of Glen Ridge, Maplewood, Montclair, South Orange, and Verona are joined by Glen Rock and Livingston for a new 17 month contract beginning in April of 2021 with third party provider *Energy Harbor*. The new contract has two options:

- a default option, that everyone will automatically receive, offering 40% renewable energy content
- or a 100% renewable energy option that residents must opt-up to choose.

The default option is nearly double the renewable energy content presently required of PSE&G and the price per kilowatt-hour (kWh) is below the current average PSE&G Basic Generation Service tariff price for power supply. The 100% renewable electricity option is only slightly above the current BGS rate but compares very favorably to other 100% options on the market. Eligible residents should have received a letter from the Village in the mail in early February detailing the program options and providing contact information. If you do nothing you will receive the default (40%) option. If you want to opt out or opt up you must do so by March 7. Program details, contact information, rates, and FAQs can also be found on the Village website at southorange.org/659/Municipal-Energy-Aggregation

PRESENTATION

- Presentation of 167 North Ridgewood Road by William MacIntosh – Mr. MacIntosh is an architect and resident of South Orange who had donated his time into trying to save and preserved the Squirer property at 167 N. Ridgewood Road. His presentation included the introduction of his proposed plan, original 2-lot site plan submittal, revised 3-lot site plan concept, structural assessment, preservation & renovation concept and fundraising initiative. Mr. MacIntosh explained the fundraising initiative is sponsored by the South Orange Historical and Preservation Society and the target goal is \$10,000 to help with the cost of the proposed plan. The Village President and the Trustees thanked Mr. MacIntosh for all his work on this project and Mr. Lefkowitz owner of the property for working with the community.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no questions or comments from the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Hilton moved to approve the minutes of July 8, 2019, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried.

Trustee Hilton moved to approve the minutes of July 22, 2019, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried.

Trustee Hilton moved to approve the minutes of December 28, 2020, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried.

Trustee Hilton moved to approve the minutes of January 11, 2021, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

2021-05 Ordinance amending the Village Code, Chapter 143, "Fees", by amending Section 143-8 "Construction Codes, Uniform"

Trustee Clarke moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-05 for first reading, seconded by Trustee Zuckerman.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried.

2021-06 Ordinance Amending the Village Code, Chapter 305, "Duty of Owner or Tenant to Remove", by adding Subsection C Imposing Penalties for the Failure to Remove Snow or Improper Removal of Snow

Trustee Coallier moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-06 for first reading, seconded by Trustee Clarke.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried.

2021-07 Ordinance Amending the Village Code, Chapter 143, "FEES", by Amending Membership and Various Fees Related to Recreation Programs

Trustee Coallier moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-07 for first reading, seconded by Trustee Jones.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried.

Trustee Clarke moved that the Public Hearing for Ordinance #2021-03 and #2021-06 shall be at the Board of Trustees Meeting on Monday, March 22, 2021 beginning at 7:00 PM, and Ordinance #2021-07 shall be at the Board of Trustees Meeting on Monday, March 8, 2021. On those dates, the Board may take further action. The Village Clerk is directed to see that the Ordinances are published in the Official Newspaper and posted in an open place in the Municipal Offices. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jones. All members were in favor and none opposed.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND 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

Public Hearing: There were no questions or comments from the public

Trustee Clarke moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-07 for first reading, seconded by Trustee Hilton.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coallier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Absent
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

Public Hearing: There were no questions or comments from the public

Trustee Zuckerman moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-07 for first reading, seconded by Trustee Coallier.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2021-031 Resolution approving Memorandum of Understanding for the South Orange Community Care & Justice Project

2021-032 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Professional Service Contract to Alexander Elias Architecture, LLC for Architecture Services at the Village's Recycling Center

2021-033 Resolution Appointing a Hearing Officer

2021-034 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract by Bergen County CO-OP BID#18-40, CO-OP#11-BECCP Playground Equipment and General Supplies c/o Ben Shaffer Recreation Inc. for Playground Equipment and Upgrade for Carter Park in an amount not to exceed \$116,386.00

2021-035 Resolution authorizing the award of contract to Morton Salt per 2020-2021 Essex County Co-op Purchasing Program for the Department of Public Works in an amount not to exceed \$72,705.00

2021-036 Resolution authorizing a contract with US Sports Institute for Multisport and Tennis Instructions Beginning March 2021 thru February 2022 for the Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs

2021-037 Resolution Hiring a Per Diem Telecommunications Dispatcher in the South Orange Department of Public Safety/Police Force

2021-038 Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of a Per-Diem Crossing Guard for the South Orange Police Department

2021-039 Resolution in Support of H.R. 946 - The Stop the Attack Local Taxpayers Act

2021-040 Resolution Authorizing the Hiring Summer Playground Program Staff for the 2021 Summer Season in the Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs for the Township of South Orange Village

2021-041 Resolution Appointing Eric Siskind as a Commissioner to the South Orange Parking Authority

2021-042 Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of a Firefighter in the South Orange Department of Public Safety-Fire Department

2021-043 Resolution Establishing Calendar Year 2021 Sewer User Charge

2021-044 Restitution Approving Subrecipient Agreement for use of Community Development Block Grant Funds between Essex County New Jersey and Township of South Orange Village

Trustee Clarke moved to approved Resolutions #2021-031 through #2021-044 and Resolution, seconded by Trustee Zuckerman.

Roll Call:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

Board of Heath

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

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

Board Members have been provided with the monthly report for February 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 cases in South Orange. Also, discussed were the new credit card payment setup for dog license renewals, completion of liquor license inspections and the police putting down a deer when necessary. Ms. Collum mentioned dog attacks must be report to the police department first then the health department instead of social media in order to start the investigation.

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 February 22, 2021. The Board of Trustees has been provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2021-029 Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills and the Issuance of Checks for the period through February 22, 2021 in the total amount of \$6,209,343.78

Trustee Hilton moved to approve Resolution #2021-045, seconded by Trustee Coalier.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Clarke	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Schnall	Absent
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Loehner discussed the following:

- Budget Update – The budget is being finalized and hoping to be introduced on March 8
- CDBG Update – The funds that were planned to be used for the Baird elevator has to be reallocated to a different project. There will be more information provided at a later date
- Deputy Administrator – Mr. Loehner stated Julie Doran new Deputy Administrator has hit the ground running and everyone is very excited. To start, Ms. Doran will be working on are public relations and community development.

VILLAGE COUNSEL REPORT

There was no report from the Village Counsel

TRUSTEE REPORTS**Trustee Coalier**

- Community Care & Justice – Trustee Coalier mentioned there will be a Virtual Town Hall meeting on March 7th, to discuss the needs of the community.

Trustee Jones

- Newcomer's Day – The proposed date is April 25th and planning for it to be held outside around the duck pond
- Village of the Month - Tabled to the next meeting
- Village Spotlight – Starting in March, the Village Spotlight will be awarding local businesses that do not receive much attention. The first award will go to the SOMA Adult School.
- Seton Village next meeting is scheduled for February 23rd
- Black History Month Run Walk this Saturday, February 27th, sign up by Thursday

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

- Status of ACS 1571/1576 – President Collum and Trustee Zuckerman have been working with the League of Municipality with hopes of coming to a middle ground; there has been some positive feedback.
- General Redevelopment Updates – They have received a lot of feedback regarding the Master Plan but need a little more time to go through all of them and to make any updates; the introductions for the Storage Facility and Wells Fargo redevelopment plans

will be coming soon; they are ready to present the Village Green concept but need to address the parking challenges and the Village Attorneys are working on the closing for the Italian Culture property.

- Medical Marijuana Appellate Court Update – President Collum discussed the appellate court decision. The Village will be receiving notice on whether or not the proposed medicinal facility for medical marijuana will be in South Orange.
- BOE Liaisons Meeting with SOMSD – President Collum discussed the correspondence they had received from residents who have expressed concerns about the Board of Education ready to start the next hybrid phase 3 learning but the South Orange Maplewood Education Association stated they did not feel comfortable returning to the school. President Collum explained the process of how the South Orange Maplewood School District runs as a separate entity and the areas that the Village can be supportive, they are 100% supportive. One of the ways the Village has found to be supportive is with testing. The Village has found a lab in South Orange that is willing to providing testing to the SOMSD employees on a regular basis to be determined and the Village Health Department is fully available to provide resources as it pertain to contact tracing, guidance, etc. President Collum also discussed teachers getting the vaccine, she stated there will be a follow up meeting later in the week with State leaders and she is hopeful there will be a resolution soon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS

- Sidewalks and Snow Clearing – President Collum discussed proposing to place leans on properties in order to quickly clear the snow piles rather than waiting the two weeks for the courts to issues summons. The snow needs to be removed for public safety. She will follow up with Mr. Loehner, Mr. Candarella and Mr. Rother to see if this is an option to help prevent accidents on our sidewalks and streets. Trustee Hilton stated this is an opportunity to encourage neighbors to help neighbors being that this is a caring community.
- Senate Bill S1 – President Collum explained this bill is about Shared Services. This bill will makes it easier between municipalities to consolidate unlike the many challenges South Orange and Maplewood faced with the fire departments. There is no action required at this time; there will be a resolution in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Trustee Jones moved to adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:20pm, seconded by Trustee Coallier. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, March 8, 2021.

Approved Minutes: March 22, 2021

ATTEST:


Ojetti 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=93&key=-1&mod=-1&mk=-1&nov=0>