

SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
Municipal Offices
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 11, 2021 - 7:00 PM
Virtual Webex Meeting

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call Meeting to Order

- 2. Roll Call**
- Village President Collum
 - Trustee Brown
 - Trustee Coallier
 - Trustee Haskins
 - Trustee Hartshorn Hilton
 - Trustee Jones
 - Trustee Zuckerman
 - Mr. Loehner, Village Administrator
 - Mr. Rother, Village Counsel
 - Ms. Davis, Acting Village Clerk

3. Meeting Notice 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. Ogetti E. Davis, Acting Village Clerk

4. Resolution to go into Executive Session

2021-276 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the October 11, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees



- A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception)
Executive Session
- Recycling (Contract/Negotiation)
 - Fire Merger (Contract/Negotiation)
 - Redevelopment (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
 - Personnel (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)

Trustee Coalier moved to approve Resolution 2021-276, seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees were in favor and none opposed.

5. Reconvene into Open Session

ROLL CALL Village President Collum
Trustee Brown
Trustee Coalier
Trustee Haskins
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton - **ABSENT**
Trustee Jones
Trustee Zuckerman
Mr. Loehner, Village Administrator
Ms. Doran, Village Deputy Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel - **ABSENT**
Mr. Otis, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Acting Village Clerk

6. Announcements

Village President read the following announcements:

A. **Importance of continuing to follow the COVID-19 Emergency Precautions**

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 protocols put in place. Cases are still on the rise, so we must remain vigilant. If you haven't gotten the vaccine yet, please do so. It is currently available for residents aged 12 and up. If we all do our part, we will see a return to normalcy soon.

B. **SOMA Two Towns for All Ages Repair Cafe**

The annual Repair Café will be held on Saturday, October 16th at the Maplewood Senior Center parking lot located at 106 Burnett Avenue in Maplewood from 1-4 pm.



One of SOMA Two Towns for All Ages' most popular community engagement events is our Repair Cafe. For this event, we recruit volunteer local repair experts to lend their talents and skills to fix items for residents that would have been thrown away. Not only does this event promote community connection, it also promotes sustainability helping residents keep beloved items versus tossing them out.

We ask that you register in advance by contacting Tracy Carroll at soma2towns@gmail.com. Please indicate what needs repair so that we can ensure that the correct repair person is available to help you and that the repair takes place as efficiently as possible.

C. **Water Department**

Important Notice from New Jersey American Water: We recognize that many people are facing additional hardship due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, making it difficult to stay current on your water bills. To help, as of 7/12/2021 and going forward, we are offering payment plans to assist customers with bringing their past due balance current. **For more information or to enroll in a payment plan please contact the Customer Service Center at -1-855-722-7072. Call center representatives are available on weekdays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.**

D. **Community Care & Justice**

South Orange is partnering with Essex County and Seton Hall University to create and launch a social work pilot called the Community Care & Justice Program. The CC&J mission: to engage community members in designing and traveling their own wellness journeys, with a particular focus on protecting and elevating our most vulnerable members and our youth. CC&J might include 911 Diversion, Restorative Practice Councils, dialogue on How To Be An Anti-Racist, Community and First Responder Mental Health Awareness Training and more.

We have launched a survey to identify CC&J priorities and we need your eyes and ears and input!

What values should drive our program? Where do you see a need for social work? How can we empower our community members to improve their mental health and wellness? How can we supplement Village law enforcement services to improve public safety in our community? Please take some time to complete our CC&J survey,



which you can access at the Community Care & Justice landing page on our Village website, and please spread the word to your friends and neighbors. Thank you in advance for your commitment to CC&J.

E. **Mobility Action Committee**

South Orange Village is recruiting a chair, members, and volunteers for a new Mobility Action Committee – SO-MAC. SO-MAC will support South Orange in prioritizing and addressing community mobility concerns and will report their progress to the Village Health & Public Safety Committee. Activities will include identifying mobility solutions, identifying and applying for mobility grant funding, driving mobility safety events and communication campaigns, and more.

Those interested in serving as a SO-MAC member or to volunteer for mobility activities should complete a volunteer form on our Village website. For the chair position in particular, the Village is seeking those with strong leadership and recruitment skills, a professional background and/or deep interest in mobility matters, and project management proficiency. Chair applicants should anticipate a time commitment of approximately 7 to 10 hours per week; all applicants should indicate the amount of their weekly time that is available to work on SO-MAC activities.

F. **Late Night Voter Registration - 2021 General Election**

Tuesday, October 12, 2021 is the last day to register for the 2021 General Election, which will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. The Village Clerk's Office will remain open until 9:00 PM to allow Village and County residents the opportunity to register to vote. In addition, residents wishing to "Vote By Mail" may get applications either from the Village Clerk's Office or the Essex County Clerk's Office at the Essex County Hall of Records. The last day to apply by mail for a Vote-By-Mail Ballot is October 26, 2021. For more information, please contact the Village Clerk's Office at (973) 378-7715 ext. 1 or visit the Election page on the Village website at: www.southorange.org.

G. **The South Orange Recycling Facility has Reopened**

The Public Works facility reopened this past Saturday and resumed collection of recyclable materials and yard debris. Please note:

- No commercial vehicles, Ida storm-related debris, household bulk items, or construction debris can be accepted.



- Mulch and humus are not available at this time.
- DPW will continue to circulate throughout South Orange picking up yard debris left at the curb
- Facility hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30am-4pm and Saturdays from 8am-12pm (Noon)

Please visit the DPW Recycling Page for details:
southorange.org/489/Recycling

H. **Recreation and Cultural Affairs**

The Department of South Orange Recreation and Cultural Affairs is hosting a Cornhole Tournament on October 30th at 1 PM, in the Sloan Street Lot. Advance registration is required and spots are limited. If you would like to participate, please visit the department's website. Costumes are optional.

Watershed Literary Events, a spoken-word series sponsored by the Department of Recreation & Cultural Affairs in South Orange, will host its third virtual reading of the year on Sunday, October 17, at 2 pm. The reading will feature two editors who are also poets—Deborah Garrison and Rogan Kelly. The event is free and open to the public and can be accessed through Zoom. For additional information, please visit the department's website.

7. **Public Comment**

Village President opens meeting for public comment:

1. Robert Adler – 120 Ralston Avenue – expressed his concerns regarding the proposed resolution to place a celebration garden at Grove Park. Mr. Adler questioned some of the details in the resolution and felt the tree should be left as is without a garden.
2. Debbie Adler – 120 Ralston Avenue – member of the Montrose Historic District, quoted their mission and state they are all against the private memorial. Ms. Adler felt the BOT should follow the Historic Preservation Commission to first adopt a plan for all the parks in South Orange.
3. Petra Chu – resident of South Orange – discussed her disagreement with the resolution and stated the park is not for memorials. Ms. Chu also mentioned the memorial was not in the best kept condition.

Resolution for Separate Action

2021-285 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALLOCATION AND USE OF \$100,000.00 FROM THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND IN SUPPORT OF AND FOR USE IN THE WEALTH GAP EQUALIZER LOAN PROGRAM



President Collum discussed the settlement agreement with Third and Valley and as part of the promissory note is a \$1 million dollar contribution into the affordable housing trust fund and the first initial installment of \$500,000.00 to the Village has been received and \$100,000.00 each year for the next five years will be submitted. The Community Coalition on Race Committee introduced the Wealth Gap Equalizer Loan Program to President Collum and Trustee Coalier and both were excited to bring this program to South Orange. The first year will be a Pilot Program and the Village will match \$75,000.00 and setting aside \$25,000.00 for marketing. President Collum introduced members of the Community Coalition on Race Committee (CCR): Audrey Rowe, Colleen Breslin and Nancy Gagnier. The members of the CCR discussed the purpose of the Wealth Gap Equalizer loan which will increase the equity to qualified Blacks and Hispanics, loan details, terms of the loan the credit program. Mr. Otis clarified the loan is not coming directly from the Village and that the resolution is to increase the budget in CCR so that can they distribute the funds.

Trustee Collier moved to adopt Resolution 2021-285, seconded by Trustee Jones.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes
Motion Carried.	

President Collum reopen public comment:

Danny Mikely – 103 Fairview Avenue – stated his excitement about the Resolution to place a celebration garden in Grove Park. He explained a lot of work has been put in to keep the area cleaned up; a lot of people visits the space and believes it fills its mission.

Olivia Lewis-Chang – 80 Riggs Place – stated the garden was done by Art Bender. She never heard people reference it as a bad place and she sees over 50 people walking the park daily. Ms. Lewis-Chang said she understand the people that border the park but feels they can all work together.



Walter Clarke – former Trustee – stated the Resolution for the celebration garden in Grove Park was not done in secret. He is in favor of the resolution and understood the concerns of the neighbors.

8. 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 27, 2021 (Trustee Coalier is ineligible to vote)

Trustee Brown moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 27, 2021 seconded by Trustee Zuckerman.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Abstain
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion Carried.

9. Ordinance for First Reading

A. 2021-21 AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF COMMUNITY CARE AND JUSTICE SOCIAL WORKER

Trustee Coalier moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-21 for first reading, seconded by Trustee Brown.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion Carried.

Trustee Jones moved that the Public Hearing for Ordinance 2021-21



shall be at the Board of Trustees Meeting on Monday, October 25, 2021 beginning at 7:00 PM. On that 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 Coalier. All members were in favor and none opposed.

10. Ordinances for Second Reading

- A. 2021-18 ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE, COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY APPROVING THE APPLICATION AND FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR TAX EXEMPTION OF VALLEY STREET SOUTH ORANGE URBAN RENEWAL, LLC FOR A storage PROJECT WITH RESPECT TO A PORTION OF VILLAGE LOCATED ON BLOCK 2302, LOTS 1, 2, 3, 13 AND 14 AND AUTHORIZING THE ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FROM STORAGE PLATFORM, LLC TO VALLEY STREET SOUTH ORANGE URBAN RENEWAL, LLC

PUBLIC HEARING: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Trustee Zuckerman moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-18 for second reading, seconded by Trustee Jones.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion Carried.

- B. 2021-19 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN RESPONSE TO DAMAGE CAUSED BY HURRICANE IDA IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$5,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,750,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE VILLAGE TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.



PUBLIC HEARING: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Trustee Zuckerman moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-19 for second reading, seconded by Trustee Coalier.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion Carried.

- C. 2021-20 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE IN ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AMENDING VILLAGE CODE SECTION 143 TO WAIVE FEES UNDER SECTION 143-8 AND SECTION 143-33 FOR CONSTRUCTION AND/OR TREE REMOVAL RELATED TO DAMAGE FROM TROPICAL STORM IDA PROVIDED THE PROPERTY OWNER, WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF ADOPTION OF THIS ORDINANCE, PLACES THE TOWNSHIP ON NOTICE AS PROVIDED HEREIN OF ITS INTENT TO SEEK SUCH WAIVER AND COMPLETES THEIR RESPECTIVE CONSTRUCTION AND/OR TREE REMOVAL APPLICATION ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2021

PUBLIC HEARING: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Trustee Jones moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-20 for second reading, seconded by Trustee Coalier.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion Carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE:



11. Resolutions for Consent Agenda

2021-277 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME CROSSING GUARD FOR THE SOUTH ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2021-278 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING PROPOSAL OF SHI FOR CABLING FOR CAMERAS AT SOPAC IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,350.39

2021-279 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME, SEASONAL EMPLOYEE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE

2021-280 RESOLUTION ADJUSTING THE HOURLY RATE OF PAY FOR A PART-TIME CROSSING GUARD FOR THE SOUTH ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2021-281 RESOLUTION TO PLACE A CELEBRATION GARDEN IN GROVE PARK

2021-282 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES FOR 8 TILLOU ROAD WEST

2021-283 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF THE AGREEMENT, ON NON-FAIR AND OPEN BASIS, BY AND BETWEEN TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AND MICHAEL RICCIARDELLI FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE SOUTH ORANGE CARE & COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROJECT

2021-284 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE AND EVAN COLLIER FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES RELATED TO THE SOUTH ORANGE CARE & COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROJECT

Trustee Coalier moved to adopt resolutions 2021-277 through 2021-284, seconded by Trustee Jones.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	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 October 11, 2021. The Board of Trustees has been provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2021-286 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH OCTOBER 11, 2021 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2,964,491.74

Trustee Zuckerman moved to adopt Resolution 2021-286, seconded by Trustee Haskins.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Yes
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Absent
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes
Motion carried	

13. Village President Report

- President Collum discussed the proposed Master Plan presentation to the Planning Board 10/26 at 7pm virtually. Public comments and questions on the Master Plan will be at a late date in November to be determined.

President Collum will be attending the Building Association Conference where she will be speaking on a panel for a discussion on affordable housing. On Friday, she will be partnering up with the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey to discuss CBA (Community Benefit Agreements).

14. Village Administrator Report

- The Gaslight Fall Edition – Mr. Loehner gave a shout out to Julie Doran Deputy Administrator on the fall edition of the Gaslight.



Mr. Loehner discussed the delivery of the equipment vehicles, 3 new trucks on the way and 2 Hybrids for the police department are on the way.

15. Village Counsel Report

There was no report from the Village Counsel

16. Trustee Reports

A. Trustee Brown

B. **Trustee Coalier**

- Community Care & Justice – Trustee Coalier mentioned they are close to launching a referral program which the first responders will put the community in touch with the social workers that may be able to help with their circumstances. CC&J has also launched 2 separate curriculums: Until Freedom Group and Alan Houston who runs FISLL a leadership program

C. **Trustee Haskins**
Environmental Commission / Green Team

- Municipal Solid Waste / Recycling – Trustee Haskins stated the last week's presentation with Maplewood was a success and at the next BOT meeting they will be discussing the next steps.
- Trees – They are planning to issue a home owner's tree guide. Fall trees will be planted the first week in November.
- Leaves – Trustee Haskins explained the best practice for leaves is mulching but ask that residents will consider bagging the leaves. There will be more community conversations in the future.
- Stormwater – They are looking to reset the format at the next Public Works meeting.

D. Trustee Hartshorn Hilton

E. **Trustee Jones**

- Newcomers Day, Thank You! – Trustee Jones thanked all of the committees and community members that attended Newcomers Day. They are already planning for next year and



hoping to get 6 digital kiosks around town.

- NPP Grant – Trustee Jones was excited to announce the Village was awarded a grant for \$125,000.00 from the Neighbor Preservation Program for Seton Village. She thanked Ms. Doran, Trustee Jones and the residents that took photos for the submission. There will be a kick off on October 29th in the evening at 133 Fairview Avenue to celebrate, more details to follow.

F. Trustee Zuckerman

- Cannabis Town Hall, Thursday October 21, 7pm via WebEx – Trustee Zuckerman mentioned the meeting will be recorded and placed on the website. The presentation will be followed by Q & A and the goal is to have an ordinance for introduction next month and if not definitely by the end of the year.

17. Public Comment

Village President opens meeting for public comment:
There were no public questions or comments.

18. New Business

19. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Trustee Jones moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:10 pm. President Collum announced the next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, October 2, 2021.

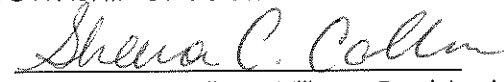
***These minutes are a summary and the actual statements can be found on the video located on the Village's website at the following link:**

<https://southorangenetwpnj.civicclerk.com/Web/Player.aspx?id=500&key=-1&mod=-1&mk=-1&nov=0>

ATTEST:


Ojetti E. Davis, Acting Village Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHORANGEVILLAGE


Sheena C. Collum, Village President