

The Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Cedarhurst was held May 6, 2024, at Village Hall, 200 Cedarhurst Avenue, Cedarhurst, NY 11516 at 8:00 P.M.

Present after roll call: Mayor:	Benjamin Weinstock
Trustees:	Eric G. Brown (Remotely)
	Myrna Zisman
	Izzy Wasser
	Daniel Plaut
Village Attorney:	Evan Newman
Village Clerk-Treasurer:	Salvatore Evola
Dep. Village Clerk-Treasurer:	JoMarie Capone
Sup't of Buildings:	Wayne Yarnell

Trustee Wasser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Weinstock presented citations to Wayne Yarnell and Alan Neuman. Mayor Weinstock said: "These two individuals noticed flames in a nearby house. They broke into the house and put the fire out. They called the Fire Department. If they did not take immediate action, there is no question that the house would have been gone. Because of their heroism, I'm extremely proud to present these citations to our Sup't of Buildings, Wayne Yarnell and his neighbor Alan Neuman."

On motion of Trustee Zisman, seconded by Trustee Wasser, the following reports for the month of April 2024 were unanimously accepted:

Nassau County Police Department
Lawrence-Cedarhurst Fire Department (not submitted)
Village Justice Andrew Goldsmith
Associate Justice Christina Sardo

On motion of Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Wasser, payment was approved of all properly audited vouchers, except as noted as per the Board Audit dated May 6, 2024, covering vouchers from April 1, 2024, through May 6, 2024.

On motion of Trustee Plaut, seconded by Trustee Zisman, the Board Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2024, were adopted.

A Public Hearing was held for the purpose to repeal and replace Hawking and Peddling: Section 184-1 through 184.7. On motion of Trustee Zisman, seconded by Trustee Wasser, the hearing was closed, and the local law was adopted. This ordinance makes it clear that door-to-door sales are prohibited anywhere in the village.

A Public hearing was held for the purpose of amending Section 250-54 C. Permit requirements for parking fields or areas. This is in reference to the placement of the Parking Permit Decal on a

vehicle which is on the driver's side back window. On motion of Trustee Plaut, seconded by Trustee Zisman, the hearing was closed, and the local law adopted.

The next item on the agenda is an Agreement with the Sephardic Temple of the Five Towns, which would allow them to use a very small portion, maybe a foot, of Village owned property, for their parking field. On motion of Trustee Wasser, seconded by Trustee Brown, permission was granted for Mayor Weinstock to execute this agreement.

Karen Freifeld, of Argyle Road, wanted to raise some issues that the residents have been having on their block regarding the Tobacco Road Cigar Lounge that opened on the corner. The people who go to the lounge park in front of people's driveways. Tobacco Road has signs that say park in designated areas which points to parking spots on the block. Mayor Weinstock reiterated that what he told her two years ago is still true. You cannot operate a cigar lounge anywhere in the Village. The owner of the cigar lounge was told that. They were issued summonses, and they have a Court date on Wednesday. They applied for a Zoning variance to get permission to use it for a cigar lounge. That case is coming up on May 30th. Ms Freifeld asked if they are allowed to drink there? Mayor Weinstock responded no. Ms Freifeld said they have a corkage fee and that they advertised a super bowl party with food and drinks included. Village Attorney Newman responded that we know all about it and we are prosecuting them. Ms Freifeld also wants to bring to the Board's attention that Platinum Partners Construction is also using that property and using the whole block as their parking lot. Mayor Weinstock said that, unfortunately, they are allowed to park on a public street.

Miriam Slansky, of 325 Argyle Road, agreed with what Ms. Freifeld said and added that the block is being commercialized. She smells smoke from the Lounge. The store is causing cars to park illegally at the Shell station, and it causes a backup of traffic.

Matt Gorlin, of 344 Argyle Road said that customers of the lounge park at all hours of the night, random people are walking around. It was a relatively quiet street before the lounge. People are there easily after 1 AM.

Judy Bernstein, of 54 Meadow Lane Lawrence, spoke about overdevelopment in the area, especially with the N. Lawrence/Inwood Development. Transit Oriented Development means there are no allowances for parking because people are using the LIRR and buses for transportation. The development will have over 2000 apartments. Maybe District 15 will have to build another school. She is coming here to ask for support from the Village of Cedarhurst to help fight this project. The impact will be on the entire District 15 area, not just Lawrence & Inwood.

Josephine Watkins, of 450 Oak Avenue, has lived here for 40 years. The Pickleball courts will have a negative impact on the neighborhood. There was a derelict parking lot put in 15 years ago, there are weeds, dead trees. There is an element that gravitates to that back area. There is going to be noise and it's going to be ugly, there's going to be traffic. Mayor Weinstock said that the decision was made to get rid of the basketball courts and to put in something nicer which is the pickleball court. It will be used by middle aged and seniors much more than young kids. We are putting in a 10' wide buffer strip of trees, giant arborvitae. We are putting in a new fence that

separates the courts from Mrs. Hoffstetter's house and will have a special screen on it so that it will absorb the pickleball noise. There is not going to be playing at night, the fence will be locked.

Trustee Brown brought up that many people in the community asked that that area in the park not be left in that shape. Mayor Weinstock came up with the idea to add a Pickleball Court. It's not going to be used by High School kids. There will be security and the gates will be locked at a certain time, there will be cameras throughout, and no lighting at night. Mayor Weinstock thought of facing the courts in a certain direction purposely so that the sun would be in their eyes during the earlier and later hours of the day. We have thought of every condition to keep a certain element out and to keep it secure.

Ed Oliveri, of 446 Oak Avenue, has lived here for 61 years. The noise from the pickleball court is going to be extreme. No one ever told us that the pickleball courts were coming in.

Adam Hoffstetter, of 441 Oak Avenue, lives right next to the park. His biggest concern is about the enforcement. The Park is abused regularly by all sorts of people in all sorts of ways. The Village and police have done a lot to get the drugs out of the park, they are not gone but it's less of a problem. We still call the police at midnight at 1 or 2 am. People party in the park, sometimes the Gazebo side, sometimes our side, but we hear them either way. Cans and bottles shoved into the holes of their fence. Any new garbage pickup planned? Mayor said that they plan to maintain it, possibly putting a DPW employee on later in the day, putting up trees to dull the sound. Mayor looked into a sound barrier, and we will be putting up a special screening that filters out the frequency of the sound of the paddles hitting the balls, it's supposed to cut that by 10 VB so it cuts the volume in half. We are trying to do all we can to accommodate the residents and improve any bad conditions. Trustee Wasser said we will do our utmost to keep the park safe & clean. Mr. Hoffstetter added that a better job is needed in policing the Park. Trustee Plaut added that we have the best police department in the United States. We can have the officers disperse people in the park after 9 PM. Lt Sollin said that there is a Five Towns specific car, that would respond to this area only. They are working 7 days a week, mostly from 12 Noon to 10 at night.

Sarah Hoffstetter, of 441 Oak Avenue, lives right next to the park. The residents of this area are very upset that no one was notified that a pickleball court was even being considered. Trustee Plaut said that your point is well taken, and we will remember this going forward. Mrs. Hoffstetter asked what the hours of operation will be. Mayor Weinstock responded that the Court times are not set in stone, but we are looking at an opening time of 10 AM and closing it at 4:30 PM. She requested a vinyl coated fence between her property and the park. The Mayor said that he would look into it. She asked who will be allowed to use the pickleball courts? Mayor Weinstock wants the residents of Cedarhurst to use it. If we see that everybody else is using it we would have to re-evaluate. The goal is to make it for our residents, after all they pay village taxes.

Josephine Watkins asked if the Village was planning on putting up trees on Oak Avenue to cover the whole area. Trustee Brown said that the Village will consult with the police and see what their advice is.

Karen Freifeld would like the pickleball courts to be open later for those who work can access it.

Mitchell Pak, of 434 Oak Avenue, he is a trial lawyer. Lived here 24 years. Speaking as an attorney, the Village has a poor track record adhering to its own rules. No loud music playing in the park. People in the park after 9 PM. The Village website is not updated with Village news. He wants updates on the pickleball court to be posted on the website. The village must be proactive. People are not afraid of signs. If there is no enforcement and no punishment, it's not going to dissuade people. He is very upset that no one was notified of this project until the bulldozer came. Please post updates on the website. Please be proactive, we do not need a crime to be committed and then start worrying about it. At the intersection of Oak & Washington, he lives one house off that intersection, he believes it's a virtual speedway. It's a four-way stop, and people routinely skip that stop sign. He wants large STOP to be painted in the roadway – on both Washington Avenue and Oak Avenue. Mayor Weinstock said that if people blow the stop sign, they are going to blow the painted word STOP on the road. Mayor Weinstock feels that the best way to stop this is to have a police officer at the intersection writing tickets and that will change the people's behavior, not permanently, but for a few months and then we do it again.

There being no further business before the Board, on motion of Trustee Plaut, seconded by Trustee Wasser, the meeting was duly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Salvatore Evola
Village Clerk-Treasurer