

**Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes
August 28, 2023**

Special Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Dennis Siry, Trustee Michael O’Neill, Trustee Roger Smith, Trustee Owen Brooks, Jr. (via video conference)
MEMBERS ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Kevin Smith; AFD Chief Gavin Budde
ALSO PRESENT: Village Attorney Bruce Kennedy
APD Chief Bryan Burton (left meeting at 7:13 p.m.)
AFD 1st Asst. Chief Stephen Juliano
Building Inspector Michael Breitweg
Bruce Hopper, DPW Superintendent
Clerk/Treasurer Catherine Murdock
Assistant to the Mayor Wendy O’Neill

Mayor Siry welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Chief Burton to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. He noted that Deputy Mayor Kevin Smith could not attend due to reasons out of his control. He then invited Chief Burton to join in the swearing in of his son, Bryan O. Burton III as police officer, who follows a long line of law enforcement professionals, from his father to his grandfather with Suffolk County PD. Officer Burton also brings experience as a NYPD officer to the Village.

Mayor’s Actions

Request to hire **Bryan O. Burton, III** as Police Officer, at the salary of \$47,768, effective August 30, 2023 (and swear him in)

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee O’Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O’Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye

Motion Carried: 4 ayes 0 nays

Request to approve Board of Trustees meeting minutes of July 24, 2023 and August 10, 2023

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Roger Smith and seconded by Trustee Michael O’Neill

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O’Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye

Motion Carried: 4 ayes 0 nays

Request from Deputy Treasurer

Request to approve the abstract from August 10, 2023 to August 23, 2023

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Roger Smith and seconded by Trustee Michael O’Neill

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O’Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye

Motion Carried: 4 ayes 0 nays

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Request from Clerk/Treasurer

Request to pay **Total Technology Solutions** for Village Hall Monthly Billing August in the amount of \$4,393.05 (A0-1625-440)

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee O'Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

Request from Matthew Denzy and Noah Roth, **Massapequa Mercedes**, to rent the ballfield at James A Caples Park on Sept. 14th , from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee O'Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

Request from Joe Crema/Graham Sharkey, for the **Amityville Soccer League** to use the James A Caples Park and Loudon Ave. soccer fields from September 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023, Monday through Friday, 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Roger Smith and seconded by Trustee O'Neill

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

Request from William Kretz on behalf of **Stony Brook LGN Soccer Club**, to use the James A Caples Park soccer fields for Amityville girls team on weekdays from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. and weekends from 8:00 a.m. to 10 a.m. with games on Sept. 10, Oct. 11 & 22, and Nov. 12

Danny Lowe, 29 Cooper Avenue, Amityville, addressed the Board about the need to find an alternate league in order to keep the Amityville girls in the U12 age group playing

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee O'Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

Request from Willliam Kretz to use the James A. Caples Park field for **Amityville lacrosse league** to use the old softball field at the north side of the beach field from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sept. 2,12,19 & 26, Oct. 3,10,17,23 & 31, and Nov. 7th

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Roger Smith and seconded by Trustee O'Neill

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

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Request from Joe Morin for **Amityville Rotary** to display a 5 ft. x 20 ft. banner across Broadway to promote the Apple Festival from approximately 9/21/2023 to 10/9/2023. (Event date is 10/7/2023)

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee O'Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

Request from Police Officer Paul Schmidt for the **Amityville PBA** to hold the annual Thomas H. Smith Ragamuffin Parade on Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. (rain date October 22, 2023), starting at 9/11 Memorial Park, going south on Broadway, to Park Ave., and west on Ireland Pl. and into the north parking field of Park Avenue School.

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Brooks and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

Request from Steve Brice for **First United Methodist Church** for use of Village entranceway signs for a Craft & Artisan Vendor Sale on Saturday, October 21st, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Roger Smith and seconded by Trustee O'Neill

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

Request from Corinne (Corky) Amico for the **Kiwanis Club of Amityville** to use the Village entranceway signs for its Craft & Antique Fair on September 16, 2023

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee O'Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

Request to pay **CSEA Employee Benefit Fund** for health insurance in the amount of \$5,411.44

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Roger Smith and seconded by Trustee Brooks

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

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Request from Police Department

Request to approve **Training Request 2023-13**: Breath Analysis Operator (BAO) Recertification on Sept. 6th, 8th, 13th and 14th, 2023 from 0700 to 1500 hours for PO Governanti (on his workday); Officers Krueder, Fuertes, Fitzgerald, Schwenzer and Rousseau (paying back 10 hrs. of Blue Card owed); Detective Kyle Miller (+ 2 hours O/T)

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee O'Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye		
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye		
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye		
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye		
Motion Carried:	4 ayes		0 nays	

Request from Fire Department

Request to pay **All American Awards Inc.** for 15 Class A Uniforms in the amount of \$8,797.50 (A0-3410-414)

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Roger Smith and seconded by Trustee Brooks

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye		
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye		
	Trustee Owen Brooks	aye		
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye		
Motion Carried:	4 ayes		0 nays	

Request from Department of Public Works

Request to pay **Sprague** for 4,000 gallons of 91 octane gas in the amount of \$13,379.64 (A0-1625-410)

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by Trustee Roger Smith and seconded by Trustee Brooks

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye		
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye		
	Trustee Owen Smith	aye		
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye		
Motion Carried:	4 ayes		0 nays	

Public Hearings

Conduct a public hearing for **Introductory Local Law No. 8 of the Year 2023**, to require Planning Board approval of proposed demolition of buildings or structures in the Historical District

MOTION TO OPEN the public hearing was made by Trustee O'Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye		
	Trustee Michael O'Neill	aye		
	Trustee Owen Smith	aye		
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye		
Motion Carried:	4 ayes		0 nays	

Public Comments

Village Attorney Bruce Kennedy explained that the Trustees looked at establishing a Certified Local Government program, but the Mayor and Trustees felt it would be better to establish our own guidelines. Mayor Siry thanked the Historical Society for sharing a list of historically significant structures and noted that he would like to devise a way to preserve buildings outside the historical district. This law would help to protect structures from demolition and be a step in the right direction.

Doris Reynolds, 190 Merrick Road., Unit 26, a Board member of the Amityville Historical Society, pointed out that the notable Triangle Building, as depicted on her T-shirt recognizing the 125th Anniversary of the Village, could someday be lost and she applauds the law.

Kenneth Lang, 105 Avon Place, also of the Historical Society, expressed his concern about the need to preserve historical structures throughout the Village and he thanked the Board for their quick action in

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amending the Code. urging the immediate establishment of a special committee to implement stronger protections. He read a letter aloud from Bill Lauder, a founder of the Amityville Historical Society and former Village Historian, which supports the Code change as well as further steps toward historic preservation. He recommends the immediate establishment of a special committee to implement stronger protections. (See attachment A., on page 6 of these minutes for the full text of Mr. Lauder’s letter.)

Patricia Cahaney, 278 Ocean Avenue, Amityville, presented the Mayor with a book of historical homes and pamphlets highlighting the history of several properties in the Village. She supports expanding the historical district to protect more structures.

Richard Handler, 195 Ocean Avenue, commented that he supports the amendment as it promotes preservation of the old-world materials and craftsmanship for which historic homes are known, encompassing the colonial period to Victorian era.

Jerry O’Neill, 104 LeBrun Avenue, a longtime local realtor, allayed fears that properties recently put up for sale might be knocked down for their land value. That is not the case, and in fact, a local attorney is looking to acquire a property for office space. The proposed law is a good change to the Code, he stated.

Paul DeQuifeldt, 347 So. 15th Street, Lindenhurst, NY, pointed out it is the people we remember from days gone by but nonetheless, we should preserve historic homes in this friendly Village.

There being no further comments, Mayor Siry invited the Trustees to close the hearing.

MOTION TO CLOSE the Hearing **Introductory Local Law No. 8 of 2023** was made by Trustee O’Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O’Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Smith	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

MOTION TO APPROVE **Introductory Local Law No. 8 of 2023** was made by Trustee O’Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O’Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Smith	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by Trustee O’Neill and seconded by Trustee Roger Smith

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Dennis Siry	aye
	Trustee Michael O’Neill	aye
	Trustee Owen Smith	aye
	Trustee Roger Smith	aye
Motion Carried:	4 ayes	0 nays

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Catherine C. Murdock
Clerk/Treasurer

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ATTACHMENT A:

Letter from Bill Lauder

1 message

Joe Guidice <bayview.gardens.20@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 3:03 PM

Dear Members of the Board.

As the Director and a founder of the Amityville Historical Society, and a resident for over a century, I encourage the Board to take firm and effective steps to protect the lasting integrity of the Historic District. Long ago, Village residents recognized the District's exceptional qualities and its importance in establishing the Village's character, setting it apart from surrounding communities. It's location in the heart of the Village and fronting upon Route 110 provides residents and passers-by alike with a glimpse of Amityville's rich charm and defines our historic community which dates back 365 years. That legacy must be protected.

I support the Code amendment which requires Planning Board approval before a structure can be demolished in the District, however, the Board must quickly implement stronger protections. Most of the buildings in the District have been granted Landmark status by the Historical Society noting their architectural significance, and in some cases, their significance in local history. However, their protection requires more than the present mere honorarium.

As such, I urge the Board of Trustees to immediately establish a special committee to examine a comprehensive approach toward historic preservation which would include balanced authoritative recommendations based upon sound preservation policies that have succeeded in sister communities. That committee should promptly report back to the Board who should then promptly consider those recommendations.

Respectfully submitted, William T. Lauder