



VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING
85 MAIN STREET, COLD SPRING, NY 10516
TEL: (845) 265-3611 FAX: (845) 265-1002
WEB: WWW.COLDSPRINGNY.GOV

Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes January 5, 2022

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Cold Spring held a Meeting on Wednesday January 5, 2022 via Videoconference as per Chapter 1 of the NY State Local Laws of 2022. Present were Mayor Kathleen E. Foley, Trustee Catherine Fadde, and Trustee Joe Curto. Deputy Mayor Tweeps Phillips Woods and Trustee Eliza Starbuck were absent. The Meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Opening Remarks

K. Foley welcomed all to the meeting. She recognized the Village Highway Department crew for salting the roads in anticipation of the recent rain and ice storm despite their limited staff.

K. Foley commented that the newly instituted administrative meetings have received positive response. Meetings with Department Heads have increased communication amongst different agencies whose responsibilities and services often overlap. This will result in increased efficiency across the various Village Departments and local agencies.

COVID-19 Updates

Employee Vaccination Policy

K. Foley stressed the need for a cohesive policy, noting that recent staff shortages due to COVID have made it very difficult to conduct Village business and provide services to Village residents. In an effort to ensure the health and safety of Village staff, and lessen the impact of illness, the Village has drafted a COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination Policy with advice and recommendations of Village Attorney, John Furst, Esq.

- Employees are required to be vaccinated and follow CDC Guidelines. The mayor recognized constitutionally protected exemptions (medical and religious) which an employee will need to request and have approved by the Village Board
- The policy does not apply to employees under a collective bargaining agreement
- Regular testing and proof of a negative test result would be required of any employee who qualifies for an exemption.

Local Testing Options

Ambulance is providing free Covid testing from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm seven days a week at the Philipstown Rec Center. If available, rapid test kits will be provided to employees to be administered in the presence of a supervisor. Employees can also receive testing at any government supervised testing facility.

J. Curto commented the proposed policy is similar to that of other businesses and accomplishes what it is intended to do - minimize the spread and severity of the virus.

C. Fadde commented that she did not see “new hires” addressed in the policy.

K. Foley noted that current employees were not required to be vaccinated in the past, however any employee who seeks exemption must fall under one of the specified categories. She also stated the CDC definition of “fully vaccinated” will be reflected in the policy, and will reflect any changes in CDC guidance going forward. She noted that Drug World will provide free vaccinations and boosters to Village employees.

Discussion ensued regarding the timing of submitting required proof of vaccinations/booster and disciplinary action, including termination of employment, for failure to do so. Discussion was also had regarding testing policy for employees who have been absent due to COVID, and are seeking to return to work.

C. Fadde made a motion to adopt the COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination as amended. J. Curto seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0-0-2 (T Woods and E. Starbuck absent).

Village Facilities Policy

Mayor Foley noted that there is a mask requirement in all Village facilities. Employees have also been asked to ride in separate vehicles.

Hiring of Robert Newhall as Part Time-Driver at Current rate (\$19.00/hr)

C. Fadde made a motion to hire Robert Newhall as a part-time driver for the Village Highway Department at the current rate of \$19/hr. Mayor Foley seconded the motion and it passed 3-0-0-2 (T. Woods and E. Starbuck absent).

January Board Meeting Schedule

- 1/05 – COVID Policy
- 1/12 – Monthly Meeting
- 1/19 – Managed Technologies Presentation
- 1/26 – Presentation by Royal Carting (tentative)
 - Mayor Foley noted there are ongoing discussions regarding a Village contract with Royal Carting. J. Curto added that conversations include monetary considerations and the types of services Royal Carting will provide. Also being discussed are the projects the Highway Department will be able to address with the additional time provided through outsourcing garbage and recycling collection.

Approval of Bills

J. Curto made a motion to approve Batch # 6306 in the amount of \$85,551.49. C. Fadde seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 3-0 (T. Woods and E. Starbuck absent).

Public Comment - None

Adjournment

Mayor Foley made a motion to adjourn. C. Fadde seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 3-0-0-2 (T. Woods and E. Starbuck absent). Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Submitted by: J. Vidakovich

Jeff Vidakovich

Date