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2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3 VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON

4 NASSAU COUNTY, NEW YORK

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East Williston Village Hall
2 Prospect Street
East Williston, New York
February 9, 2026
7:30 P.M.

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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

1 A P P E A R A N C E S :

2 BONNIE L.S. PARENTE, Mayor

3 ANTHONY GALLO, Deputy Mayor

4 JAMES L. IANNONE, Trustee

5 RUSHI VAIDYA, Trustee

6 JEFFREY BLINKOFF, Village Attorney

7 SCOTT CUNNINGHAM, Treasurer

8 JOANNA E. PALUMBO, Village Clerk

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1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26

2 MAYOR PARENTE: Rocky, would you
3 lead us in the Pledge?

4 MR. PANETTA: Sure.

5 (WHEREUPON, the Pledge of
6 Allegiance was recited).

7 MAYOR PARENTE: Raffaella is
8 excused, she had a work event that she had to
9 attend.

10 We have a court reporter because we
11 have three public hearings on the agenda.

12 We'll do the first one, I'll read
13 it.

14 It's for the consideration of a
15 local law amending Village Code Chapter 121
16 entitled Streets and Public Places, Article III
17 entitled Encroachments, Care of Sidewalks.

18 That changes because of a meeting
19 that some of us attended about a year ago where
20 a speaker on insurance pointed out that that
21 language has to be very specific in a code to
22 appropriately transfer liability for a sidewalk
23 incident to the homeowner, and our code
24 intended to say that, but this is just making
25 sure that it reads properly. So it's just

1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26

2 cleanup.

3 Does anybody on the Board have
4 anything to say about that?

5 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

6 MAYOR PARENTE: Any comments from
7 the public?

8 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

9 MAYOR PARENTE: Then I'll make the
10 motion that we -- do we need to do a SEQRA?

11 ATTORNEY BLINKOFF: Yes.

12 MAYOR PARENTE: Okay, I'm going to
13 leave it to you then, you can speak to this.

14 ATTORNEY BLINKOFF: Right.

15 So I would suggest that this would
16 be a Type II for the purposes of the State
17 Environmental Quality Review Act wherein we
18 have no significant impact on the environment,
19 and I would ask that the Board, in conjunction
20 with the local law, adopt that SEQRA
21 resolution.

22 MAYOR PARENTE: I make that motion.

23 DEPUTY MAYOR GALLO: I'll second.

24 MAYOR PARENTE: Seconded by Deputy
25 Mayor Gallo.

1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26

2 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
3 affirmative vote of the Trustees present.)

4 MAYOR PARENTE: Before I jump to
5 number two, are you aware that Governor Hochul
6 is changing the SEQRA? Where there's
7 legislation coming out now, or maybe she's
8 putting it in the budget, so that it would be
9 less strict on minor issues like this, so we
10 wouldn't have to do a SEQRA resolution.

11 ATTORNEY BLINKOFF: I will research
12 that.

13 MAYOR PARENTE: Am I communicating
14 that correctly?

15 CLERK PALUMBO: I don't know.

16 MAYOR PARENTE: Look into that.

17 CLERK PALUMBO: Are you sure you
18 didn't talk with all the other mayors about
19 that today?

20 MAYOR PARENTE: Okay, we'll talk
21 later. Maybe I did.

22 Okay, next one, number two.

23 For the consideration of a local
24 law amending Village Code Chapter 11 entitled
25 Auctions and Sales so as to repeal Article I

1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26
2 entitled Auction and Sale of Household Goods
3 and to amend Article II entitled Garage Sales.

4 This is more cleanup. As we go
5 through the code, as we live with the code, we
6 see things that were codified many, many years
7 ago that don't quite say what they're supposed
8 to say.

9 This area of the code made it a
10 little bit confusing about garage sales, and it
11 almost seemed that if you read one section of
12 the code, you could have a garage sale if you
13 were using a third party vendor, and then
14 another area of the code said, no garage sales
15 unless you died, it's an estate sale or you're
16 selling.

17 So the two areas did not work
18 together. All cleanup language to make sure
19 that when residents read the code, it's clear
20 what it actually -- that it actually says what
21 it intends to say.

22 Go ahead, Jeff.

23 ATTORNEY BLINKOFF: Yes.

24 So as before, I would suggest that
25 there should be a SEQRA resolution with this

1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26
2 indicating that it's a Type II for the purposes
3 of SEQRA, having no impact on the environment,
4 and I concur, Mayor, this was just redrafted to
5 make sure that a garage sale is a garage sale,
6 and there's no confusion as to what language is
7 being used.

8 MAYOR PARENTE: Thank you.

9 Any comments from the Board?

10 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

11 MAYOR PARENTE: No.

12 Any comments from the public?

13 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

14 MAYOR PARENTE: I will make that
15 motion.

16 Do I have a second?

17 TRUSTEE IANNONE: I'll second it.

18 MAYOR PARENTE: Trustee Iannone.

19 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
20 affirmative vote of the Trustees present.)

21 MAYOR PARENTE: Thank you.

22 The next one is a resolution
23 approving a Local Law and ratifying prior
24 approval of a Local Law amending Section
25 160-37(B) (1) (b) of the Village Code so as to

1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26
2 allow for fences of 6-foot fences in height to
3 be installed on residential properties at the
4 lot line of such properties which abut a
5 publicly owned property, abut a commercially
6 owned property, or abut a property owned by an
7 entity that has a conditional use granted in
8 the village.

9 Again, this is cleanup of language.
10 This was codified many years ago. I'll talk a
11 little bit more about it to make sure that
12 there's no confusion about what this actually
13 means.

14 There are residents whose backyards
15 abut, for example, the church, and because of
16 that, they were granted the right to have a
17 6-foot fence on that edge of their property
18 that abuts the commercial property or the
19 property that has a special-use permit.

20 It is not, in any way, allowing a
21 property to have a 6-foot fence between them
22 and another residential property. That is also
23 not allowing somebody to have a 6-foot fence on
24 a corner property abutting a street. It
25 doesn't allow that at all. It is something

1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26

2 that came up many years ago under a prior
3 Board. It made sense at the time. It still
4 makes sense because those property owners that
5 fought for it at the time, they had to put up
6 6-foot fences, but somehow the local law was
7 never filed properly with the Secretary of
8 State, and so we need to make sure that we
9 raise it again. This is completely different
10 from the school litigation, for example. It
11 would not apply to them the way it's written.

12 Anybody on the Board have any
13 questions about it? Comments?

14 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

15 MAYOR PARENTE: No.

16 And anybody?

17 (WHEREUPON, there was response.)

18 MAYOR PARENTE: No, okay.

19 ATTORNEY BLINKOFF: Yes, Mayor, as
20 before, I would just suggest that this would be
21 a Type II action having no significant impact
22 on the environment, and I would concur that
23 this only applies to a resident installing a
24 fence. It doesn't allow a commercial property,
25 or any entity other than a residential property

1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26

2 to install such a fence, and it's only very
3 limited in its scope.

4 MAYOR PARENTE: Great, thank you.

5 MAYOR PARENTE: I will make that
6 motion.

7 Do I have a second?

8 TRUSTEE VAIDYA: I'll second.

9 MAYOR PARENTE: Seconded by Trustee
10 Vaidya.

11 Oh, yes, Mr Chappo?

12 MR. CHAPPO: Yes.

13 MAYOR PARENTE: Go ahead.

14 MR. CHAPPO: Just, I understand,
15 the way you explained everything was fine, but
16 conversely, can the commercial organization put
17 up a 6-foot fence on their side?

18 ATTORNEY BLINKOFF: They cannot.

19 MAYOR PARENTE: No.

20 MR. CHAPPO: Okay.

21 MAYOR PARENTE: Thank you, that's a
22 great question. Sometimes we would almost want
23 them to.

24 MR. CHAPPO: Exactly.

25 MAYOR PARENTE: But, no.

1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2-9-26

2 MR. CHAPPO: Okay.

3 MAYOR PARENTE: Thank you.

4 Trustee Vaidya was the second on
5 that.

6 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
7 affirmative vote of the Board members present.)

8 MAYOR PARENTE: Okay, that is it
9 for our public hearing portion.

10 Thank you, appreciate your time.

11 (WHEREUPON, the public hearings
12 were concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)

SS:

COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, DEBBIE BABINO, a certified Shorthand Reporter
in the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing is a true and accurate
transcript of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand
on this 14th day of February, 2026.

Debbie Babino

Debbie Babino, Certified Reporter

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