

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING –AUGUST 8, 2013

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also in attendance were Deputy Mayor Lockhart, Trustees Adamson, Sutor and VanDeusen, Attorney Caserta, Building Inspector Stevens, DPW Superintendent Muller, Engineer Lannon, Police Chief Salada, several residents and business owners. The Mayor asked that all phones be silenced. Mayor Reynolds then stated before going to the Public, he wanted to thank Donna Huggins and her committee for their work and research of the possible sale and selling price of the vacant lot at 347 Main St. The Mayor stated that now our attorney will be in touch with the attorney of property owner Gary Smith and will work on an agreement and continue to move forward. Attorney Caserta stated he has spoken to the attorney, Mr. Palumbo.

Aaron Dey questioned moving forward. Mayor Reynolds stated the Village is moving forward to research if the purchase of the property can be fully funded through grants as no Village tax payer's money will be used for the purchase. If no total grant funding is available then the Board will put the decision out to a referendum of the Village residents. Mr. Will Ziegler of Jackson St. stated there is an approximate ten foot drop-off at the Main St. lot, questioning the safety issue. Donna Huggins stated Attorney DeCastro could refine the agreement. Trustee Adamson stated that Mr. Caserta is the attorney for the Village.

During the public portion of the meeting, developer Ed Hastings asked if the Board had received the letter of intent from Nancy Sanger regarding the sale and moving of the DPW complex. Attorney Caserta stated it had been received. Trustee Adamson stated the proposal is to build a DPW complex at the 707 location. He stated a complex would still be needed at Falkner Park to house restrooms currently attached to the existing DPW site. A brief discussion took place regarding negotiations and power and water sources for the proposed DPW complex. Mayor Reynolds stated this letter of intent is the first step in the process.

Building Inspector Stevens discussed that if grant funds are found for the 347 Main St. lot purchase has anyone had thoughts in regard to a long term agreement to cut the brush and trees on the property below said lot as it is owned by the Youngstown Yacht Club. Donna Huggins stated the growth has been cut many times in the past. Mayor Reynolds stated the Village must then work in parallel in getting the view cleared.

Building Inspector Stevens submitted his monthly report for July. Nine permits were completed for work valued at \$100,550.00 and \$615.00 in fees were collected. Mr. Stevens then reported on the unoccupied home at 260 Cherry St. where water service has been turned on again at the request of the bank handling the abandoned property. He was asked by Superintendent Muller to inspect the basement during the turn on and the basement was found to be in bad structural shape. Mr. Stevens stated there are several homes in the village which are in foreclosure and he has had difficulty reaching the banks regarding upkeep on these properties. Attorney Caserta stated he will check with the Niagara County Real Property attorney as to who is handling the properties and asked that Mr. Stevens forward the addresses to him. Inspector Stevens stated the grass has not been cut at the properties and he has had complaints from surrounding neighbors. Inspector Stevens stated a sign will go up on unmaintained properties with the responsible bank's name on it if said properties are not cleaned up. A brief discussion took place regarding sections of broken sidewalks and their replacement due to being a tripping hazard.

Police Chief Salada submitted his July report. 257 patrol hours were worked, 1,897 patrol miles logged, 23 Village calls, 9 Town of Porter calls, 13 calls outside the Village, 12 UTT's issued, 14 parking tickets issued and 9 arrests made. Chief Salada reported that the Level Regatta went well with very few incidents. He also stated the move to the new Police Office has been completed. The office is now housed in the lower level of the Village Hall.

DPW Superintendent Muller submitted his monthly report. Four hours of overtime was worked and 49.36 tons of garbage collected. He reported there is a problem with the air conditioning compressor on the roof and gave replacement prices to the Board. A completely new unit and compressor with a five year warranty will cost \$3,199.00 and a new compressor using the existing unit will cost \$2,445.00 and have a one year warranty. Trustee Adamson motioned to purchase the new complete unit at a price of \$3,199.00, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried. Mr. Muller will place the order in the morning. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he has talked to the Clerk as to what expense line the purchase would be made from. Deputy Mayor Lockhart then stated the recently paved Third St. looked very good and that it will soon be striped. Trustee Adamson thanked the DPW for work on the ball diamonds. He also asked if Mr. Muller could trim a ditch area in the Lockport / Glenvale Rd. area. Mr. Muller will contact the Town of Porter regarding this matter.

Engineer Lannon reported on grant funding as requested by the Board at the July 8, 2013 meeting. The HERF grants were not recommended for the 347 Main St. lot purchase if it were to be used as a park. He was advised by a HERF representative that possible qualification might come if migratory birds at the Niagara River were involved. Mr. Lannon has also called Niagara Co. Legislature Clyde Burmaster but has not had a return call to date. Mrs. Huggins thanked Mr. Lannon for the information, asked for a copy of his report and asked if he would follow up on contacting Legislature Burmaster. He said he would and Mayor Reynolds stated he would also contact Mr. Burmaster regarding this matter. Engineer Lannon also gave a listing of eligible projects for New York Power Authority grants but the land purchase does not fit the criteria. Other possible options were discussed but they were geared toward funds to create jobs. Building Inspector Stevens mentioned that the 347 Main St. lot once had underground gas tanks and stated his concerns for the Village's interest. He questioned if they were removed. Engineer Lannon stated an environmental studied should have been done and that there could still be potential contamination even if the tanks were remove.

Attorney Caserta will address items as they come up during the meeting.

The minutes of the July 18, 2013 meeting were approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Lockhart, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Utility taxes received from Granite Telecom-\$2.33, AT&T-\$2.46, Verizon-\$1,226.27, Accent Energy-\$9.49, Birch Communications-\$8.51, Time Warner Cable-\$86.35, IDT-\$6.28, ACN-\$9.23, Vonage-\$6.29 and Niagara County Sales Tax for June \$46,724.74, up \$5,510.25 from the same time period last year. So noted.

AGENDA

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending July 31, 2013-General Fund-\$46,166.54, Water Fund-\$24,688.41, Sewer Fund-\$32,778.76 and Trust Agency-\$1,011.44 and for period ending August 8, 2013-General Fund-\$17,288.30, Sewer Fund-\$1,749.21 and Trust Agency-\$1,800. were approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried.
2. In promotion preparation for the 2014 Mighty Niagara Half Marathon a request was received from Maureen Rizzo of Niagara Hospice for the Village's support of their race as it comes through the Village and on to Porter on the Lake Park. Next year's event will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2014. Trustee Adamson motioned to approve the request, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried. Chief Salada stated his department will escort the marathon.
3. Authorization for Clerk to transfer funds from the Water Fund owned to the Sewer Fund from water / sewer bill collections in the amount of \$23,213.45 for the period of 6/1 – 7/24/13 was made by motion of Trustee Suitor, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.

4. Request from Town of Porter Recreation Commission to use Village gym when availability permits for Tai Chi and yoga classes. Trustee Adamson stated that at the Recreation Commission meeting on Monday, he learned the girls' softball league will have winter practice on Wednesday nights. Deputy Mayor Lockhart has talked to Town of Porter Recreation Commission Amy Freiermuth who stated they would work around our Recreation Department's schedule. He suggested Amy and Recreation Director Kim Cudmore work out gym use times.
5. Authorization for the Clerk to amend the 2013-2014 General Fund budget by increasing Appropriations A960 (sub account A9050.8 – Unemployment Insurance Claim Payments) \$5.70 and increasing A511 Appropriation Reserves \$5.70, source of funding A231 Cash Special Reserves-Unemployment was made by motion of Trustee Suitor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
6. Request from Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co. to use Vets Park, the Recreation Building and to close off portions of Third St. near the Fire Hall, use of power drops, restrict some parking and use of fire hydrants for concessions at various times during August 26-September 6, 2013 in preparation and during the Labor Day Field Days was approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried. Mayor Reynolds stated this is a standard request made yearly by the Fire Co.
7. The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. So noted.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the Village now has a stockpile of street millings from this year and last year. After talking with Superintendent Muller, he suggested the Village sells them as surplus supply but will keep some millings for Village use. One company offered to purchase them for \$1.25 per ton with the Village hauling them away. A brief discussion took place followed by Deputy Mayor Lockhart's motion to declare the millings as surplus supply, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried. Deputy Mayor Lockhart then motioned to sell the surplus supply of millings for \$5.00 per ton with the DPW loading the millings and the purchaser hauling them away, seconded by Trustee Adamson, and carried.

REPORTS

Trustee VanDeusen reported she has been working with the Mayor and Trustee Adamson on the Community Picnic preparation. The picnic will be held at Falkner Park on Saturday, August 24th. Mayor Reynolds stated he has been working with the Niagara River Anglers on the fishing derby held in conjunction with the picnic.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported he has been working with Superintendent Muller on signage on the lighthouse pole to direct visitors to restrooms in the Village. He also reported the Village Arborist Jeff Tower will host a free workshop on trimming trees which is scheduled for Sunday, August 25th at 1:00 p.m. also at Falkner Park. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the recently paved Third St. looks very good. He also thanked Claire Engle of Main St. for clearing the line of site on her property at the top of Water St.

Trustee Adamson reported attending the Recreation Commission meeting this past Monday. Floor hockey will begin on September 17th and the Youth Center will open in October. He also reported the business blender will be held on August 15th at the Youngstown Yacht Club. Also, efforts to update the veteran's memorial will begin soon.

Mayor Reynolds stated a date needs to be set to review the applications submitted for the van driver position. He asked the Board to check their calendars and give suggestions of 2-3 dates to meet.

The Mayor then asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. With no response, Trustee Adamson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Sutor and carried. The meeting ended at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon
Clerk Treasurer