

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING –JANUARY 9, 2014

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Deputy Mayor Lockhart, Trustees Adamson, Sutor and VanDeusen, Attorney Caserta, DPW Superintendent Muller, Police Chief Salada, Building Inspector Stevens, Engineer Lannon, several Lewiston-Porter students and residents.

Mayor Reynolds asked for public comment. Hearing none, the meeting continued.

Building Inspector Stevens submitted his November and December 2013 reports. In November, four permits were issued for work valued at an estimated cost of \$28,818.00 with \$190.00 in fees collected. No permits were issued in December 2013. Mr. Stevens then reported on the on-going problem with vacant properties throughout the Village stating his hands are tied not know who is responsible for upkeep of these properties. Building Inspector Stevens also reported a vacant house on Lake St. experienced extensive water damage this week due to a broken water pipe inside the home. He and Attorney Caserta will confer on the concerns.

Police Chief Salada submitted his December report. 156 patrol hours were worked, 731 patrol miles logged, 12 Village calls, 15 Town of Porter calls, 17 calls outside the Village, 8 UTT's were issued, 4 parking tickets were issued and 3 arrests were made. Chief Salada reported that Officer Vanik Aloian has submitted his resignation. The Chief asked that he replace Officer Aloian with Vincent Paonessa who will be attending the Police Academy at his own expense. Deputy Mayor Lockhart motioned to accept Chief Salada's replacement recommendation, seconded by Trustee Sutor and carried.

DPW Superintendent Muller submitted his monthly report with 55 overtime hours were worked. He stated he would like authorization to re-do the two bathrooms at the waterfront near the boat launch. The installation of tile floors would cover the concrete floors currently at the site at an approximate cost of \$1,000.00. Deputy Mayor Lockhart motioned to authorize the tiling work at the bathrooms at a cost not to exceed \$1,100.00, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried. Superintendent Muller stated Howard Krieger of Lockport St. wants grading work done to a dirt hump on his property. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he would go with Mr. Muller to the property tomorrow, to investigate the situation.

Engineer Lannon submitted his monthly report. A discussion took place regarding Greenway funds and the Lew-Port School as a host community with Mr. Chris Roser being contacted regarding possible Greenway funding. A discussion also took place regarding the Water St. walkway. The LWRP matter was discussed with Renee Parsons of New York State suggesting the Village form a committee of 10-12 community "stakeholders" for the project. Also discussed was the waterline on Lockport St. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated it will be several more years until the DOT considers the waterline replacement on Lockport St.

Attorney Caserta stated he will contact Town of Porter Attorney Michael Dowd regarding the sewer contract which will expire in March. Mayor Reynolds stated that before going forward with a new contract, he wants to settle the existing one.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Utility taxes received-Vonage-\$6.12, AT&T-\$2.03, Granite Telecom-\$2.08, Time Warner-\$87.60, Noble Americas Energy-\$11.44, MCI-\$3.32, National Grid-\$2,341.81 and National Fuel-\$1,444.92. Niagara County Sales Tax distribution for November-\$29,571.39 up \$234.87 from the same period last year. CHIPS reimbursement distribution received-\$32,328.27. So noted.

2. Defensive driving class for insurance cost / point reduction will once again be offered in the Village Hall on Saturday, January 11, 2014. For more information call 283-5048. So noted. Deputy Mayor Lockhart will open and close the Village Hall for the class.

AGENDA

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending December 31, 2013-General Fund-\$67,982.49, Water Fund-\$4,824.48 and Sewer Fund-\$1,089.16 and for the period ending January 9, 2014-General Fund-\$32,858.79, Water Fund-\$10,570.78 and Sewer Fund-\$634.86 were approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
2. Nomination request from Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce for this year's Citizen of the Year with the annual awards gala to be held on May 16, 2014. The Board of Trustee nomination is to be sent to the Chamber office by January 31, 2014. So noted.
3. Request for letter of support from the Village Board of Trustees for the Niagara River Angler's rearing pens project. This project is funded by the Niagara River Greenway Ecological Fund. Mayor Reynolds explained the grant is to replace and update equipment at the existing pens at the North Dock and because the Village owns the property, support from the Village is required. Trustee Adamson motioned to support the grant application for equipment replacement and updating, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
4. Village Hall door locks. Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported he met with Superintendent Muller and a representative from Niagara Lock in regard to a high security, restructured key system for the Village Hall and other Village buildings inasmuch as it has been quite some time since such security has been addressed. The keys could only be made at Niagara Lock and we would know who has keys and who is in the building. The Village Board would be the only people authorized to have keys made. Deputy Mayor Lockhart then motioned to replace the locks, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen who added it was a good idea. The motion carried. Mayor Reynolds stated that currently, no one knows who has keys to Village buildings.
5. Hospice Mighty Niagara Half Marathon scheduled for Saturday, September 20, 2014. Approval by Board needed for Hospice's DOT permit application. Trustee Suitor motioned to approve the Marathon, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.
6. Authorization for Clerk to transfer funds in the amount of \$41,096.94 from the H account, Capital Projects Savings Fund to the General Fund checking for the purpose of making the last payment to the First Niagara BAN waterfront project, \$40,000. principle and \$1,096.94 interest was given by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.
7. The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. So noted.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Muller reported a window in the Village Office has a crack on an inside pane. He will contact the window company as the windows are gas filled between panes and may still be under warranty.

REPORTS

Trustee Adamson made a suggestion to order more door mats and runners for next year's Christmas in the Village as the wetness in the gym this year was considerable.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported he has contacted the Village of Lewiston DPW Superintendent regarding Youngstown residents using the electronic drop-off site in Lewiston who contracts with a Rochester company for pick up. A discussion took place regarding the matter with no solutions at this time. Mayor Reynolds suggested the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company be asked if they would be interested in hosting another electronic drop-off day. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the Fire Company may have lost funds in doing the drop-off event and suggested a letter be written to the Village of Lewiston to request use of their facility.

Trustee VanDeusen reported attending recent RRG and LOOW meetings with some on-going issues continuing to be worked on.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart thanked the DPW for cutting and trimming tree branches this past summer which prevented more damage during the recent ice storm.

Trustee Suito reported the computer server in the Village Clerk's Office has had repairs and now replacement options need to be looked at and a decision needs to be made within the next month.

Trustee Adamson reported that Bradt Tree Farm sent a letter of thanks to the Village for the purchase of Christmas trees. They also removed the trees on Village streets after the holidays. Trustee Adamson also reported an open gym night will begin tomorrow, January 10, 2014 in the Recreation Department. Basketball is scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays and the department is looking for someone to work with this program. Baseball teams will be using the gym on Wednesdays.

Mayor Reynolds asked for any public comment. One of the Lewiston-Porter students inquired about the age for basketball participants as he has a younger brother. Trustee Adamson stated all ages are playing.

Trustee VanDeusen stated the committee for the December 19, 2013 commemoration of peace after the War of 1812 did an excellent job. Mayor Reynolds stated the day started at 5:00 a.m. at Fort Niagara with 110 people attending the event. Re-enactors then attended a breakfast and comments were made of it being the best meal they had ever had at a re-enactment event. The commemoration ceremony took place at 7:00 a.m. at Falkner Park. At 9:00 a.m., 650 students from Lewiston-Porter, Wilson, Tuscarora and Stella Niagara schools arrived and visited one of four learning stations throughout the Village. Positive feedback regarding the day's events was received and all agreed it was an excellent and successful program.

Mayor Reynolds announced the Village Board of Trustees would enter into Executive Session following the Board meeting to discuss personnel matters.

With no further business, Trustee Adamson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried. The meeting ended at 7:50 p.m.

The Board of Trustees entered into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. At 8:50 p.m. Trustee Suito motioned to go back into regular session, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried. Trustee Suito then motioned to set the hourly wage at \$13.00 per hour for the part time Deputy Clerk position to be filled in the Village Clerk's Office. The motion was seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried. At 8:51 p.m. Trustee Suito motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon
Clerk Treasurer

