

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – February 27, 2014

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

Bob Emerson, director of Fort Niagara announced the dedication of the Betsy Doyle historic marker will take place on Saturday, March 22nd beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Falkner Park with a brief reception to follow at the Jug. He then gave an update of future events to be held at Fort Niagara, leaving a list of dates for these events. Trustee VanDeusen offered to have the information placed on the electronic sign outside the Village Hall. Mr. Emerson thanked Trustee VanDeusen and will contact the Village Office for such postings. Deputy Mayor Lockhart asked about the Castle by Candlelight event held each year. Mr. Emerson stated that when the event first began approximately 10-12 years ago, there were more volunteers than attendees. Now, approximately 500 visitors attend this event. He did state that due to the extreme cold and rain this year, attendance was down. Mr. Emerson stated that overall; attendance to the Fort was 152,000 last year, up from 94,000. More bus tours are coming in with many from New York City.

Mayor Reynolds asked for public comment. Trustee Sutor stated he was speaking for the Youngstown Yacht Club with a request to bury the electrical service from the South Dock bathrooms to the boat yard at the Yacht Club's expense. Mr. Sutor stated the street would be re-built after the work was performed. A discussion took place regarding notification to NiMo (National Grid). Deputy Mayor Lockhart motioned to accept the Youngstown Yacht Club's proposal to bury electrical service at their expense, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried but with one abstention coming from Trustee Sutor. Jack Bush of Third St. had some questions in regard to burying cable lines also. Mr. Sutor stated that if needed they would.

Mark Butera of Anchor Spirits stated he was speaking for himself and not in any other capacity. He referred to the previous Board meeting when a Dollar General store was mentioned as coming to Youngstown. Mr. Butera urged the Board members to visit the Dollar General store in Wilson and then visit the Rite Aid and Melloni's Market here in Youngstown stating there needs to be a hard look made. Mayor Reynolds responded by saying he has spoken to Mr. Melloni and heard his concerns of a Dollar General store coming to the Village. Mayor Reynolds stated initially he was excited to have a new business come to Youngstown but not when it would hurt existing businesses. The Mayor stated that he had visited the Lewiston Dollar General, Deputy Mayor Lockhart had visited the Wilson Dollar General and Trustee VanDeusen had visited the Niagara Falls Dollar General. All were surprised to learn that there are several aisles of food items and over the counter drug items sold at the Dollar General stores which could lower sales at existing Village stores. Mayor Reynolds will speak to the developer regarding the Board's findings.

Building Inspector Stevens had nothing to report and stated things are quite in the Village right now.

Police Chief Salada was absent.

DPW Superintendent Muller stated the crew has been working on the bathrooms at the waterfront and reported on a drainage problem at the 707/Vets Park area. A camera will be sent through the line to see what and where the problem is.

Engineer Lannon submitted his report and discussed the Water St. walkway project. He also reported on the Grant Gateway which gives grant funds for such projects as our LWRP (Local Waterfront Revitalization Program) He advised the Board that registration must be done online naming authorized contacts. Mayor Reynolds and the Clerk will

register the Village tomorrow. Mr. Lannon also stated he will address the Dr.'s office property when the weather improves.

Attorney Caserta will address items as they appear during the meeting.

The minutes of the February 13, 2014 Board meeting were approved by motion of Trustee Suitor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Utility taxes received from TWC Digital Phone-\$88.25, AT&T-\$3.84, Vonage-\$6.03 and Time Warner Franchise receipts-\$28,075.87. Niagara County Sales Tax distribution for January 2014-\$31,946.17 up \$1,821.43 from the same time period last year. So noted.
2. Notice received from the Town of Porter Assessor of March 1st deadline to submit tax exemption applications for the 2014 roll. For more information, call the Assessor's Office at 745-3730. So noted.
3. Niagara County Veteran Service Office will offer private benefit sessions to veterans and family members on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at the Town of Porter Hall. To schedule an appointment call 745-3730. So noted. Mayor Reynolds stated a session was held in Youngstown in July 2013 and the Veterans Office is trying to reach all municipalities.
4. Youngstown Business and Professional Association will sponsor its 3rd annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 15, 2014 beginning promptly at noon. The parade will begin at the corner of Hinman and Main Sts. and end at "The Jug" on Main and Lockport Sts. The event will take place, rain or shine. So noted. Mark Butera of the Youngstown Business Association stated Diane Melloni is the chairperson of the event.
5. The dedication of the Betsy Doyle historical marker will take place on Saturday, March 22, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., rain or shine, at Falkner Park. A brief reception will follow at "The Jug". So noted.
6. Authorization for the Clerk to transfer \$20,661.38 from the Water Fund owed to the Sewer Fund for the period of February 2014 from Water/Sewer bill collections was approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Lockhart, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.

AGENDA

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending February 27, 2014 – General Fund-\$28,551.02, Water Fund-\$22,679.26 and Sewer Fund-\$5,827.20 was approved by motion of Trustee VanDeusen, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried.
2. The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. So noted.

OLD BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported a transportation grant training session will take place on Tuesday, March 18, 2014. He will be attending this single session training for elected officials who may be possible recipients of grant funds. The session will be held at the Buffalo DOT office from 12:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee VanDeusen read a copy of a resolution from the Niagara County Legislature requesting the Army Corps of Engineers to take action to resolve concerns at the LOOW site. Trustee VanDeusen has spoken to Legislator Clyde Burmaster regarding safety and FBI concerns regarding homeland security at the site. After a brief discussion Trustee VanDeusen motioned to have the Village Board send a letter of support to Niagara County in their efforts regarding this matter, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated there is a Niagara County Legislature resolution opposing tuition to prisoners for a college education. Deputy Mayor Lockhart motioned that a letter be sent to Niagara County supporting the County in their opposition to fund college educations for prisoners, seconded by Trustee Sutor and carried.

REPORTS

Trustee VanDeusen reported RRG (Residents for Responsible Government) will host a dinner honoring Nils Olsen for his work with RRG. Mr. Olsen will be leaving the area.

Mayor Reynolds again asked for public comment. Jack Bush asked about an article written about two Lewiston police officers who had discipline actions taken against them with one of them also employed in Youngstown. Attorney Caserta stated the incident happened approximately two years ago with one officer receiving disciplinary action in Lewiston and the other is no longer employed there. The investigation in Lewiston showed nothing criminal had taken place although it was not right. Nothing happened in Youngstown.

Mayor Reynolds stated the Board would be entering into Executive Session following the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters. With no further business, Trustee Sutor motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried. The meeting ended at 7:40 p.m.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. No decisions were made which required a Board vote. At 8:28 p.m. Trustee Sutor motioned to adjourn the Executive Session, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon
Clerk Treasurer