

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – May 8, 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 and VanDeusen, Attorney Caserta, Building Inspector Stevens, Patrick Brown, CPA and several students and residents. Trustee Suitor was absent. He then asked that all cell phones are silenced.

The Mayor announced Patrick Brown of Brown and Co., Certified Public Accountants would be giving an update on the audit recently done by the firm and the public portion would follow the update. After his introduction, Mr. Brown thanked the Board, Clerk and Deputy Clerk for their overall assistance during the 2013 audit. He reported on his review of records, testing and review of procedures. Mr. Brown presented the preliminary report stating the Village is operating with full transparency, has a clean “bill of health” and is in a good financial position. Actual expenses are under budget, all funds operated in the positive, day to day operations are running well, the Board’s reviewing of vouchers follows good financial operation, there is no long term debt, the Village has good fund balances going forward and is on solid financial footing. Mr. Brown stated it is very positive that the Board did not use unappropriated fund balances when putting together the 2014-2015 budget. Mr. Brown did suggest the Village’s investment policy be updated, a capital asset policy be implemented to show depreciation of items, and historical cost / depreciation be reviewed as well as implementing Government Accounting Standard Practices #45. He also reported bank statements are balanced on a monthly basis which is good standard procedure. A final copy of the audit will be compiled and delivered to the Board soon.

The Mayor then asked for public comment. Kent Frey of 565 Water St. stated he and his wife Laurie, recently purchased the property and want to do landscape upgrades at the top of the hill. They would pay for all the paving and landscaping costs. Trustee Adamson asked if this was Village property Mr. Frey was discussing. Mr. Frey replied it was and that the road is undersized going up the Water St. hill. He stated this would help in that it would widen the road. Trustee Adamson addressed his concerns of emergency vehicles going down the hill the wrong way using the south end of the road. Trustee Adamson asked if the plans would be going into the bluff area. Mr. Frey stated they would and that the plans would include the installation of drainage and the cleanup of the overgrown weeds, brush, etc. Trustee Adamson stated this needs to be researched. Mr. Frey asked if the Board would like to schedule a visit to the site discussed. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the Board needs to review this request and meet with Building Inspector Stevens regarding the matter first.

Steven Dorszynski of 386 Elm St. addressed the Board on the drainage problem in front of his home stating the drainage grates are high. He asked to have someone come to the property to view the problem. Superintendent Muller will be asked to look into the problem.

Building Inspector Stevens submitted his March and April reports. In March, 2 permits were issued for work valued at \$12,300.00 and fees of \$70.00 collected. In April, 5 permits were issued for work valued at \$42,005.00 and fees of \$195.00 collected.

Police Chief Salada was absent but submitted his monthly report for April. 132 patrol hours were worked, 645 patrol miles were logged, 8 Village calls, 2 Town of Porter calls, 2 calls outside the Village, 2 UTT’s were issued, and 3 parking tickets were issued.

DPW Superintendent Muller was absent but submitted his monthly report. No overtime hours were worked.

Engineer Lannon was absent.

Attorney Caserta stated he had nothing to report which wasn’t already on the agenda.

The minutes of the April 24, 2014 Board meeting were approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Utility taxes received from Birch Communications-\$7.18, lease agreement receipts from Verizon Wireless-\$13,687.30 and Niagara County Sales Tax for March 2014-\$38,897.49, down \$9,029.28 from the same time period last year. So noted.
2. Village of Youngstown election will take place on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 from noon-9:00 p.m. in the Village Hall gym. So noted.
3. Notification from the NYS Department of Transportation stating the Village of Youngstown will receive \$32,737.71 in CHIPS (Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program) funding. So noted.
4. Notification from the NYS Department of Conservation of CWM Landfill proposal to build and operate a new landfill. Public comments will be accepted from May 7- July 7. DEC fact sheets are available in the Youngstown Free Library. So noted.

AGENDA

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending April 30, 2014 – General Fund-\$8,463.08, Water Fund-\$24,720.32 and Sewer Fund-\$20.49 and for the period ending May 8, 2014-General Fund-\$31,888.51, Water Fund-\$1,099.28, Sewer Fund-\$363.17 and Trust Agency-\$65.00 were approved by motion of Trustee VanDeusen, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
2. The liquor license application submitted by Claudia Andres for the soon to be opened Mug and Musket Tavern at 418 Main St. was approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
3. Attorney Caserta stated concerns have been addressed and resolved regarding the Cold Storage contract. All costs will be covered by the buyer. Mr. Caserta stated that variances for the project should be minimal. When asked when the building may be torn down, Mr. Caserta stated it could possibly be down by year end. Deputy Mayor Lockhart then motioned to authorize Mayor Reynolds to enter into the Cold Storage contract, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
4. Authorization for Clerk to transfer \$24,263.91 from the Water fund owed to the Sewer Fund for the period of April 2014 from water / sewer bill collections was approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.
5. A resolution regarding the expansion of CWM, LLC was discussed and Mayor Reynolds stated copies of the aforementioned resolution were available next to tonight's sign-in sheet for review. He stated the resolution is in support of Niagara County as lead agency and briefed all in attendance of its content. Trustee VanDeusen motioned to approve the resolution of support to Niagara County at no cost to the Village and to continue efforts to oppose permits for CWM expansion, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried. The Mayor asked that a copy of the resolution be include in the minutes. Donna Huggins of Main St. stated her confusion with CWM gate receipts and Greenway funds. Attorney Caserta clarified the questions and also stated the Town of Porter could not oppose the CWM matter due to agreements the Town had made in their host community agreement.
6. Falkner Park use requests – Lew Port School-6/12/14 and First Presbyterian Church-6/15/14 were approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Lockhart, seconded by Trustee

Adamson and carried. Also mentioned was the annual visit from fourth graders to the Museum and their use of the park on June 5, 2014.

7. Authorization for Deputy Clerk to attend the Niagara County Municipal Clerk's meeting on May 15, 2014 was made by motion of Trustee VanDeusen, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
8. The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. So noted.

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Adamson asked Deputy Mayor Lockhart if he had spoken to Niagara County regarding matters addressed at a previous Board meeting. Deputy Mayor Lockhart affirmed that he had regarding the Main St. ponding of water and the Bloody Run bridge. Trustee Adamson asked if the safety issue and stripping of Church St. in the area of his home was addressed. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated Church St., a County road could be reviewed when the County schedules the work in Youngstown.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business discussed.

REPORTS

Mayor Reynolds reported he and Deputy Mayor Lockhart will be attending another meeting in Lockport on 5/13/14 to continue the development of a hazardous mitigation plan in the event of an emergency. This allows municipalities to receive possible FEMA assistance funds for such an event. The Mayor also reported that while attending a Recreation Commission meeting in the Village Hall, he noticed pipe insulation has broken away and needs to be repaired as it could contain asbestos due to the age of the building. Estimates for the repair will be sought.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported the Village of Lewiston bike rental plans have gone by the wayside and the bikes have been donated to the Dory who has been planning Village bike rentals. After expenses, the Dory plans to donate rental proceeds to the Recreation Department. The Deputy Mayor commended the good cooperation between the two villages. Mayor Reynolds then mentioned the upcoming contraption race fundraiser which will involve both villages.

Trustee VanDeusen reported the public comment period regarding the CWM expansion may be extended from 60 days to 120 days. She encouraged everyone to make their comments known. Trustee VanDeusen has called Legislator Clyde Burmaster inquiring about the LOOW site and resolution regarding the same. No determination has come from the DEC to Niagara County yet.

Trustee Adamson reported the Nancy Price Run/Walk will take place on Saturday, May 10, 2014. He also reported the printing of updated data for the veteran's memorial at Vets Park is completed and within thirty days it will be installed at no cost to the Village. He stated a decision needs to be made regarding the bushes for planting at the site. Deputy Mayor Lockhart suggested getting a recommendation from the Youngstown Garden Club as to the bushes to be planted. Trustee Adamson stated the Historical Society would like to see burning bushes planted and suggested speaking to them first.

Mayor Reynolds asked for public comment again. Donna Huggins commented that although she understands the amount of hard work involved in the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company's Field Day, it is sad to think of Youngstown not having this annual event.

With no further comment, Trustee Adamson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried. The meeting ended at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon
Clerk Treasurer