

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING –MAY 29, 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, Suitor and VanDeusen, Police Sergeant Schuey, DPW Superintendent Muller, Building Inspector Stevens several residents and students. Attorney Caserta was absent.

The Mayor asked for public comment. Donna Huggins of Main St. reported she sat in the gym most of election day and was pleased to see so many residents interested in local government. She also stated she was happy for those who won the election and sorry for those who did not.

Frank Gutierrez of Lockport St. asked if bow hunting was permitted in the wooded area behind his home and that of his neighbor, Building Inspector Stevens. Mayor Reynolds responded that it is not permitted. A brief discussion took place regarding the local laws in this regard. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he will discuss the existing local laws with Attorney Caserta with possible updates to such laws. With no further public comments, the meeting continued.

Building Inspector Stevens stated he had submitted his monthly report at the last meeting. He has been responding to complaints of uncut grass, referencing agenda item #10. Mr. Stevens has learned from a colleague of the possible registering of banks that take over a property within a municipality and with a possible 30 day window for such registration. He reported on the continued problem of locating owners or responsible party for unkempt properties.

Police Sergeant Schuey had nothing to report.

DPW Superintendent Muller stated the crew has been cutting grass and spreading mulch. Mayor Reynolds alerted Mr. Muller of the upcoming visit from approximately 170 fourth grade classes to the Museum and who will be spending time in Falkner Park. The Mayor asked that the bathrooms be ready and unlocked. Garbage tonnage for April was 55.78 tons.

Engineer Lannon was absent but submitted his monthly report. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he has spoken with Mr. Lannon who is still working on the Water St/Ferry St. access as well as the Water St walkway. Review of the water tower feed line has been discussed and a developer is interested in the Oak and Elm St. area which had been planned but never developed many years ago.

Mayor Reynolds announced that Attorney Caserta was out of town.

The minutes of the May 8, 2014 meeting were approved by motion of Trustee VanDeusen, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Utility taxes received from Time Warner Cable-\$87.48, AT&T-\$2.96, Vonage-\$5.82 and Niagara County Sales Tax for April 2014-\$31,653.70 up \$2,141.36 from the same time period. So noted.

AGENDA

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending May 29, 2014 – General Fund-\$55,649.38, Water Fund-\$1,602.94, Sewer Fund-\$725.46 and Trust Agency-\$2,051.30 was approved by motion of Trustee Suitor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.

2. The annual request of financial support from the Village of Lewiston for the multi-community fireworks display to be held on Friday, July 4th at dusk (rain date – July 5th) was approved by motion of Deputy Mayor to contribute \$500. as in the past. The motion was seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.
3. Resolution to authorize the collection of taxes: Take notice that the Clerk Treasurer of the Village of Youngstown, New York has received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes for the 2014-2015 fiscal year and that taxes will be collected as follows: at the Village Office, 240 Lockport St., Youngstown, New York on each Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00p.m. and Friday from 8:00 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. from June 2 through July 1, 2014. During the period of June 2 through July 1, taxes may be paid without additional charges. Take further notice that on all taxes remaining unpaid after July 1, 2014, five percentum (5%) will be added through July 31st and one percentum (1%) WILL BE ADDED THEREAFTER. Any unpaid taxes as of the close of business on October 31, 2014 will be turned over to Niagara County for collection. The resolution was approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried.
4. Authorization for the Mayor to sign the agreement known as the Waste Tax Agreement in the amount of \$20,000.00 per year between the Town of Porter and the Village of Youngstown in consideration of the Village providing and maintaining various facilities and programs that are available to the citizens of the Town of Porter was made by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried.
5. Authorization for Clerk to transfer appropriations from General, Water and Sewer Funds to offset any overspent line items at fiscal year-end was made by motion of Trustee Suitor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
6. Authorization of transfers: F8310.4 Water Administration Expense-\$16,000., F8320.4 Water Purchase Expense-\$42,000., F8340.2 Water District Equipment Capital Expense-\$6,000. G8110.4 Sewer Administration Expense-\$10,000., G8120.2 Sanitary Sewer Capital Expense-\$6,000. to A201 Savings and F9950.0 Transfer to Capital Projects-\$7,500. to A231 Special Reserve Savings was made by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
7. Frey property request. Mayor Reynolds stated that at the last Board meeting, a request was made by the Frey's to black top, repair the retaining wall and install a small wall for parking spots, which is on Village property on Water St. Trustee VanDeusen stated the plans looked first class but was not in favor of the plans due to it being Village property. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated granting permission to the request would be setting precedence and that it is also a congested area. Trustee Adamson stated a resident on Elliot St. wanted to do a similar project at the stub street and it was denied. Mrs. Frey stated they simply wanted to clean up the fence and stairs area where rotting railroad ties sit. She then suggested that no paving or stone work be done and to leave the parking area as is. A brief discussion took place regarding agenda item #14-Verizon is requesting to remove an existing anchor and guy line on Water St. which would eliminate a tripping and safety problem. Deputy Mayor Lockhart question if there would be a cost to the Village. Mr. Frey stated there would not. Mr. Frey went on to state there would be no cutting and they would use what's already there on the site. The only change would be to have Verizon remove the guy line if the Board so agreed. Trustee Adamson motioned to allow the Freys to clean up the land mentioned at their own expense with the guy line to be removed and no paving to be done, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried. Mr. Frey asked if Verizon would be given authorization for removal. Deputy Mayor Lockhart asked Building Inspector Stevens to issue a permit for Verizon to do the work.
8. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the Board had approved hiring two persons for summer help at the DPW. One person who has worked there in the past will be returning and the Deputy Mayor suggested a help wanted ad be placed in the newspaper for the second person. Deputy Mayor Lockhart then motioned to approve

rehiring Brian Harrison, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried. Deputy Mayor Lockhart motioned to advertise for the other position, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.

9. The annual Youngstown Street Dance sponsored by the Youngstown Business and Professional Association will be held on Thursday, June 26 from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. on Main St. and will include activities for all ages. So noted. Trustee Adamson stated there will be a car show added to the event this year with a request to the block off Hinman St. where the cars will be shown. Police Sergeant Schuey asked about the Hinman St. residents parking their vehicles and street access for them. The matter will be worked out with all concerned.
10. Written complaint received regarding uncut grass and general neglect of property located at 120 Chestnut St. Building Inspector Stevens addressed the matter during his report and the owner stated he will resolve the problem.
11. A letter has been received from a Hinman St. resident regarding poor drainage. Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported he and Superintendent Muller have inspected several areas in the Village with similar problems and found most are on private property. They will continue to investigate the problem.
12. Request from It Happened to Alexa Foundation to change the location of their Great Contraption Race event to Veteran's Park as originally planned on August 1st and 2nd. A brief discussion took place regarding the size of the crowd and the need for more space. Trustee Suitor motioned to approve the change with the event to be held in Veteran's Park, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
13. Authorization for Clerk and Deputy Clerk to attend the Niagara County Municipal Clerk's meeting on June 19, 2014 was made by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried.
14. Request from Verizon to remove an existing anchor and guy on Water St. pole #559. See agenda item # 7.
15. Trustee VanDeusen motioned to authorize the Mayor to sign the fire protection contract with the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried. **(This was added after the agenda was first printed and not on the copies for public. Please announce the additional agenda item.)**
16. The Organizational Meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. So noted. Mayor Reynolds also announced that during the summer, only one Board meeting will be held during the months of June, July and August.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Adamson stated he has learned from Josh Stack of the un-level regatta on August 15th and 16th and 90-100 boats will be participating. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated there could be a conflict due to the Niagara County fishing derby also scheduled for those dates. A discussion took place and Trustee Adamson will alert Mr. Stack so both events may be accommodated.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he has discussed a standardized drainage policy due to the water drainage problems involving the backyards of private properties and the need for easements to access such properties. Health concerns from the poor drainage were discussed as well as swales which some property owners have blocked with grass clippings adding to the drainage problems. A brief discussion took place regarding drainage problems which head toward the parkway. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the

need to prioritize areas needing the most attention. He reported on a drainage complaint at 215 Church St. and suggested a snake or camera be used to look for the drain blockage. He would like to work with Building Inspector Stevens on the drainage matter as he has knowledge of the issue. Permission to go onto private property is needed first. Trustee Adamson motioned to allow Village staff to go onto private properties having drainage problems with the homeowner's authorization, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried.

Mayor Reynolds stated that several years ago, the Board looked into recycling totes but they were found to be too costly. The Mayor stated the Village's garbage contract expires in approximately a year and suggested the issue be reinvestigated and grant funds be reviewed with our grant writer, Bernie Rotella for the totes. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated this is the time to get something in place before the contract expires. Mr. Rotella will be asked to look for grant funding for the Village.

REPORTS

Mayor Reynolds stated that unfortunately, this was Trustee VanDeusen's last Board meeting of her term. He thanked Trustee VanDeusen for her dedication to the community and her concern for Village and area residents by her meeting attendance for groups such as LOOW and RRG. Trustee VanDeusen stated it has been her honor to serve on this Board. With that, she was given a round of applause.

Trustee VanDeusen then reported a siting board is being formed and will be responsible for deciding whether to grant CWM's application for expansion, deny it or grant it subject to modifications or conditions. Three appointees have been selected but RRG is asking for Governor Cuomo to rescind one of the appointments due to the appointee's position. Every municipality except the Town of Porter has endorsed resolutions opposing CWM's expansion request. The Town of Porter is barred from taking a position due to it being a host community to CWM. Trustee VanDeusen encouraged the public to submit their comments.

Trustee Lockhart reported on his discussion with Jeff Ritter of the Lewiston Water Pollution Control Center in regard to the sewer use contract. The Village of Youngstown had received a draft of the contract but not the final agreement due to it being held up by another municipality. Language in the contract has basically remained the same. Deputy Mayor Lockhart announced there is an electronic recycling center at the Town of Porter Highway Garage on Brayley Rd. which is open Monday-Thursday until 4:00 p.m. and open to Youngstown residents. Previously, Youngstown residents had the Village of Lewiston site for recycling such items on a once a month basis. Information regarding the Brayley Rd. recycling center will be posted in the Village.

Trustee Suitor had nothing to report.

Trustee Adamson reported Mark and Cheryl Butera of the Youngstown Business and Professional Association have obtained grant funds for the Youngstown event brochure which he passed out to those in attendance and funds to purchase hanging flower baskets for the Village. He also announced a special events committee is being formed to put together a community calendar to be posted on the Village website. The committee which includes Bob Emerson, Director of Fort Niagara plans to meet each September. Trustee Suitor stated the Village has offered in the past to also post events. Mayor Reynolds stated such a committee is a good idea. Trustee Adamson referenced a sign to acknowledge the home of Marine Corp, Sergeant Major Michael Barrett. Deputy Mayor Lockhart suggested a Wall of Fame for prominent residents of our area. Newly elected trustee Stuart Comerford stated he agreed with the Deputy Mayor regarding the Wall of Fame as there are many that could be recognized.

Mayor Reynolds asked for public comment again. Stuart Comerford of Lockport St. stated two vacant homes on Elm St. are in need of grass cutting. Building Inspector Stevens stated he has been researching who is responsible for those and other abandoned properties in the Village. Mr. Comerford also thanked Trustee VanDeusen and all others for their support during the recent election.

Grant Writer Bernie Rotella then arrived at the meeting and Mayor Reynolds asked him for an update on grants. A brief update was given regarding possible grant funding referencing a \$350,000. grant. Also mentioned were possible grants for a water line project and the Cold Storage site. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he has had discussion with Engineer Lannon regarding a water line project. Mr. Rotella also updated the Board on an \$18,000. landscaping project grant of which additional work or items may be added. All agreed to add the purchase of picnic tables to complete the grant allocation. A brief discussion took place regarding possible land acquisition of the vacant land at 347 Main St. Mayor Reynolds asked Mr. Rotella about grants for recycling totes. Mr. Rotella explained such a project needs to be registered and takes 2-3 years to get any money back. The Village would have to pay upfront with reimbursement coming after our registry position comes up. Funding is limited. At the Mayor's request, Mr. Rotella will look for any grants to help with purchasing recycling totes.

With no further comments, Trustee VanDeusen motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Sutor and carried. The meeting ended at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon
Clerk Treasurer