

## VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – NOVEMBER 13, 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, Comerford and Sutor, Attorney Caserta, Police Chief Salada, Building Inspector Stevens, Engineer Lannon and several residents.

The Mayor then asked for public comment. Pauline Kaiser of Main St. stated tourists coming into the Village on buses are trespassing onto her property to get a better view of the water, taking pictures at her arbor as well as trespassing on other neighbor's property. Ms. Kaiser stated this trespassing is an invasion of privacy by groups of tourists, not individuals and could also become a liability if someone were to fall at the private properties. She asked that the Board do something to keep these tourists off resident's property. Bob Reese of Main St. reported his neighbor coming home to find 5-6 tourists flashing pictures at the rear of her house. Mayor Reynolds stated he has been made aware of this situation and each time he has talked to the jet boat business asking them to remind passengers to not trespass on private property. He reported the tourism committee will try to print pamphlets in the tourists' native language with this message included. Susan Bull of Main St. stated she almost hit a tourist while backing out of her driveway. Many tourists continue to stand in the path of on-coming vehicles to take pictures. She stated tour guides must be told to pass on the message of no trespassing to their bus occupants. Mayor Reynolds stated he was misquoted in a recent newspaper article regarding this matter and has contacted the writer, Don Glynn of that fact. Mayor Reynolds stated he is in constant contact with the jet boat company staff. Mrs. Bull asked that the Board do something now to protect the Main St. residents experiencing these problems and not wait until next spring. Mr. Reese commented on the positive effect the tourism has had for Fort Niagara. The Mayor conveyed Fort Niagara Director Bob Emerson's concerns of the trespassing. Donna Huggins of Main St. stated the tourists not going on the jet boat should have something to do. The Mayor stated he will continue to address the problem.

Heidi Reisman of the Recreation Commission asked about the status of the gym and recreation area in the basement. Mayor Reynolds stated a certified contractor has taken air samples and the Village has received a verbal report with a written one to follow stating the air samples in areas checked show no readings for contaminants.

Building Inspector Stevens submitted his monthly report for October. 2 permits were issued and \$80.00 in fees collected. He also stated he will be attending training tomorrow and again at the end of the month.

Police Chief Salada submitted his October report. 150 patrol hours worked, 578 patrol miles logged, 11 Village calls, 4 Town of Porter calls, 7 calls outside the Village, 2 UTT's issued, 2 parking tickets written and 1 arrest made.

DPW Superintendent Muller was absent but submitted his monthly report. 63.64 tons of garbage was collected and 3 hours of overtime was worked.

Engineer Lannon presented his report to the Board stating the LWRP committee met on November 5<sup>th</sup> and will meet again tomorrow, this time with Renee Parsons from the DEC. He also reported the developer for the proposed Oak / Elm St. development has been referred to the NYSDEC concerning I & I compliance.

Attorney Caserta will address items as needed throughout the meeting.

The minutes of the October 23, 2014 meeting were approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Comerford and carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Utility taxes received from Vonage-\$5.16. So noted.
2. Electronic waste collection has resumed again at the Town of Porter garage at 1800 Brayley Rd. during business hours. For more details call the garage at 791-3831. So noted.
3. Christmas in the Village will be held on Saturday. December 13, 2014. So noted.

### **AGENDA**

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending October 31, 2014-General Fund-\$5,327.73, Water Fund-\$116.98, Sewer Fund-\$27,047.00, Trust Agency-\$400.00 and for period ending November 13, 2014-General Fund-\$147,408.66, Water Fund-\$1,090.70, Sewer Fund-\$780.32 and Trust Agency-\$230.00 were approved by motion of Trustee Suitor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
2. Results of surplus equipment sales by sealed bids were announced by Mayor Reynolds. At the 6:30 p.m. bid opening, the high bids were as follows- 2” Homelite trash pump \$75.00, Lanair waste oil heater-\$577.00, Ingersoll-Rand air compressor-\$750.00 and no bids were submitted for the stainless steel tailgate salt spreader. Deputy Mayor Lockhart motioned to accept the submitted bids and award the items according. The motion was seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried. The high bidders will be notified for pick-up of the equipment.
3. Authorization for the Mayor to sign easement agreement between the Village and the Frey’s of Water St. was made by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Comerford and carried.
4. Authorization for the Mayor to sign the agreement for the storage of portable docks with Niagara Jet Boat Adventures was approved by motion of Trustee Comerford, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.
5. A resolution authorizing the filing of an application for a State Assistance Grant for Municipal Waste Reduction and / or Recycling Project and for the Mayor to sign the same. Mayor Reynolds explained the grant dating back to 2011 which was to purchase a Bobcat skid steer with a 50% matching grant. At that time, three years ago, the skid steer was on the Village’s “wish list” with a cost of \$21,000.00 but is more now. If the Village accepts the grant, it has three years in which to purchase the skid steer at a cost which will more than likely be increased. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the DPW fleet of vehicles is getting older and would rather see funds go to upgrade those vehicles and that the Village has more pressing needs. Trustee Adamson stated the vehicle is versatile. Trustee Comerford stated it could be used for snow removal as used at his place of employment. Mayor Reynolds stated the quote estimate obtained by Superintendent Muller is over \$30,000.00 and could be more by the time we would purchase the equipment. Trustee Adamson referred to the grant whereby the Village would receive \$10,000. Deputy Mayor Lockhart related the \$10,000.00 to its effect on Village taxes suggesting the amount could be banked and forego the skid steer. He also discussed possible leasing such equipment as the Village has done in the past with a backhoe. Trustee Adamson stated that if we forgo the grant now, we should not make such a purchase 2-3 years from now. Trustee Comerford agreed leasing might be a better alternative if equipment is needed. After the discussion, the Board agreed to pass on the grant for the purchase of a skid steer.
6. Authorization for the Clerk’s Office staff to attend the annual Niagara County Municipal Clerks Association Christmas luncheon on Friday, December 5, 2014 was given by motion of Trustee Suitor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried.

7. Authorization for the Mayor and Board to sign list of overdue Village taxes as of November 1, 2014 in the amount of \$15,380.99 and for the Clerk to submit them to Niagara County Real Property Tax Services for reimbursement was made by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Comerford and carried.
8. The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. So noted.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was discussed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

### **REPORTS**

Trustee Comerford had nothing to report.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he has met with an engineer from CRA Engineering regarding water drainage issues. He stated the Board will have a public outreach regarding this problem in the Village and although a particular backyard will not be drained, the effect it may have on other properties will be considered.

Trustee Suitor had nothing to report at this time.

Trustee Adamson read a letter from the Youngstown Business Association regarding a grant to purchase new signs that will match the old existing faded signs at the four main entry streets into the Village. He also reported additional snowflake lights will be purchased for additional poles on Main St. and also Lockport St. Tinsel will be purchased by the YBA and they ask that the DPW wrap the poles displaying the snowflake lights. Trustee Adamson stated Superintendent Muller will get permission from National Grid to add the tinsel. Trustee Adamson then announced the children's activities for the Christmas in the Village event will be held on the second floor of the Village Hall. Eight volunteers will work on the event which will include vendors and the Lion's Club cooking food items. Donna Huggins will work on the Victorian Tea and announced a wassail punch will be served instead of tea this year. Trustee Adamson stated an ad in the Sentinel is usually placed to advertise the Christmas in the Village event. The Board agreed to place a colored ad and flyers will be designed for schools to distribute to their students. Trustee Adamson also suggested a letter of thanks and appreciation be drafted for Mike Riordan who worked on the Veteran's Memorial display of names and Mike Costello who did landscaping for the Village that was above and beyond the work requested. Mayor Reynolds suggested each Board member sign the thank you letters.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he attended the Veteran's Day service sponsored by the VFW and thanked all involved in the well-attended ceremony.

Trustee Adamson added that the Historical Museum requested one of the old Village signs upon replacement. The Board agreed to give them one.

Mayor Reynolds asked for public comment again. Donna Huggins of Main St. stated she attended the Veteran's Day ceremony and it was a lovely service with good attendance.

With no further comments, the Mayor announced the Board would go into Executive Session following the Board meeting to discuss personnel matters. Trustee Suitor motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Comerford and carried. The meeting ended at 7:52 p.m.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:02 p.m. At 8:47 p.m., Deputy Mayor Lockhart motioned to come out of Executive Session and return to regular Session.

In regular Session, Trustee Sutor motioned to accept the agreement for the abatement of asbestos in the gym and Recreation Room, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.

Trustee Sutor then motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and carried. The meeting ended at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon  
Clerk Treasurer