



INCORPORATED:
APRIL 18, 1854

Village of Youngstown

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Regular Meeting of the Village of Youngstown Board of Trustees July 11, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor Reynolds, Deputy Mayor Lockhart, Trustee Comerford, Trustee Zastrow, Trustee Fox, Attorney Caserta, Chief Schuey, Building Inspector Stevens, Deputy Clerk D’Luh, Grant Writer Rotella, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Freiermuth (arrived for the Work Session).

ABSENT: Superintendent Muller, Engineer Lannon

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Reynolds at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT--all comments shall be kept to 3 minutes and directed to the Village Board of Trustees.

Raymond Mahtook from Lockport Street addressed the Board and stated that he dropped off a letter to the Clerk’s Office about concerns on Water Street. He stated that the Police Chief called him and explained that he would address some of the issues. He asked the Board if they had the opportunity to review the letter and to address any of the issues. Mayor Reynolds stated that the Board Members did receive the letter but did not have the opportunity to discuss the memo as a whole. Mayor Reynolds stated that he intended to have a discussion about the issues addressed during the work session this evening. Mr. Mahtook said that he did have some suggestions and ideas on how to address the issues. He asked if the boat launch was closed and if he could use it. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the the launch is closed because the edges are not well defined and there is not a tie off area to protect the boat. They are also closed because there is a safety factor that someone could step over the edge and get hurt. He stated that once the River levels go down, the Board will discuss reopening the launch. Mr. Mahtook stated he understood that, but asked what the long term plan is for the launch if this is “the new normal.” He said he is happy to meet with any of the Board Members to discuss solutions. Mayor Reynolds invited Mr. Mahtook to stay for the Work Session and he agreed.

Sue McNaughton from Main Street stated the the Can-Am Challenge has been canceled, but there will still be a regatta during the weekend for local boaters and a band will play on Friday. The street dance has been cancelled.

Ms. McNaughton did ask if there was anything further on the status of food trucks and Mayor Reynolds stated that this was on the Work Session agenda.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE:

Chief Schuey stated that he distributed his report. He asked if Water Street would still be closed for the weekend of the Regatta. Ms. McNaughton stated that the reason that the Can-Am is cancelled is because the Yacht Club cannot accommodate launching boats and the amount of visitors that typically come to the race. She continued that the street is closed specifically for the boats coming in with trailers that cannot make the turn. Chief Schuey stated that he has contacted the Yacht Club and is waiting to hear back, but is assuming that the road will be open as there will not be boats launching.

Chief Schuey stated that he spoke with the organizer of the August 3 Music Festival and is comfortable with the details that have been provided for the event. He stated that Mr. Barry seems very professional and was able to address any questions that he had. He continued that it sounds like it will be a great event.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Superintendent Muller was absent, but Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated that the DPW had planned on paving Water Street this year, but due to the high water levels that project is on hold. Therefore, the plan is to still pave Third Street (from Brookshire) to Lockport Street, and the money that was budgeted for Water Street will be used to fix sidewalks throughout the Village. Superintendent Muller is in the process of getting quotes for that work and has a bid spec from Engineer Lannon so that the contractors all have the same information. The paving schedule will be according to the availability of the milling machine and other municipality's schedules as it is a shared service.

ENGINEER:

Absent.

GRANT WRITER:

Grant Writer Rotella did not distribute a report but stated that there is no update on the Waterline Grant. He claims he continues to work on getting that funding along with the help of Senator Ort's office. He continued that the reimbursement documents have changed and he is in the process of converting those documents for when payment is reimbursed.

Grant Writer Rotella stated that he worked with Chief Schuey and Clerk-Treasurer Brown on a grant that reported as having a balance of \$3100 when in reality it was \$31.00. He said it is "all squared away" at this point.

Grant Writer Rotella stated the New York Archives Grant was not awarded to the Village. He stated that the amount of money awarded overall was not very large and there would be a debriefing on the grant reason for being rejected. He stated that it could be reapplied for in October.

Grand Writer Rotella stated that Highway Superintendent Hillman at the Town of Porter is putting together the catch basin clean out plan and needs a resolution from each participating municipality that will be a part of the grant for purchasing the truck. He continued that the cost that the Village will contribute is \$18,300 (total cost is \$366,000 – 25% of that amount is then divided by 5 municipalities). Grant Writer Rotella asked for a resolution from the Board for this item.

A motion was made to commit \$18,300, if awarded, for a joint application for the Vacuum Truck purchased through the Town of Porter along with a memorandum of understanding that if granted the five participating municipalities would also divide the annual maintenance and upkeep. The motion was made by Trustee. Trustee Fox asked when the funding would be needed and Grant Writer Rotella stated most likely the spring of 2020. He explained that the application is due by the end of this month, the grant results will be released at the end of the year and the DEC will send the contract out three to four months after awarded. This grant is through the DEC under the Water Quality Improvement Program. Deputy Mayor Lockhart seconded the motion. Trustee Zastrow asked if we had the funds available in our NYClass account. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated that this piece of equipment will be used for maintenance on the storm sewers which are on a schedule to be cleaned. Grant Writer Rotella stated that it is a good partnership for \$18,300 but he is still waiting on a few components in order to submit the request. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Grant Writer Rotella stated the DEC grant for the concerts reopens in September and the Village should be eligible for that this year. He estimates it would be about \$1200-1500. Mayor Reynolds informed Grant Writer Rotella that he could provide any information needed for submission.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

Building Inspector Stevens stated he submitted his report and has been busy with inspections and has started (commercial) fire inspections and should be wrapped up with those soon.

Building Inspector Stevens commented that he had a need for the ambulance and fire company a few weeks ago and the professionalism was outstanding. He continued that what really stood out was that Officer Conde was able to take control of a scary situation for his 10 year old son and handled him with utmost professionalism and care. Mayor Reynolds stated he has witness the same response in other situations and agrees that Officer Conde is well regarded.

Trustee Fox stated that he spoke with Building Inspector Stevens about the dead trees on (the north side) Lockport Street near Mr. Candella's property and Building Inspector Stevens stated they are located on the right of way and the State is responsible for taking them down. Trustee Fox stated these trees could become a liability and need to be removed. Building Inspector Stevens stated that Mr. Candella has documented every conversation he has had with NYS about the removal because he wants them removed as much as the Village does. Trustee Zastrow asked if the Village has officially given the State notice. Building Inspector Stevens stated he was not sure if that happened last year. Trustee Zastrow stated that they need official notice of the code violation. Building Inspector Stevens stated he would contact someone he knows that works for the State (in Buffalo) to see if he can get some direction. He continued that the State is pointing the finger at the County and vice versa. Trustee Fox stated that "prior notice" of the issue needs to be officially provided to the State or County to address the issue.

Grant Writer Rotella stated that the Village should be pursuing the grant for tree inventory that include the maintenance, the planning and taking down of anything on municipal property and there would be no cost on the inventory and up to \$25,000 on the maintenance. He stated that any trees on municipal, county or state land would be included as it is a joint effort. Deputy Mayor Lockhart asked if this was the grant where there were 10 awarded with 300 applicants. Grant Writer Rotella said he remembered it being a pretty significant amount of applicants awarded although the application was very intensive so it should be started now.

ATTORNEY:

Attorney Caserta stated he had nothing further to report than what is already on the Work Session agenda or to be discussed in the Executive Session.

MINUTES:

Approval of, or changes to, the Village Board and work session minutes from June 13, 2019.

A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Trustee Zastrow and seconded by Trustee Comerford. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence from Senator Ortt announcing the Senate and Assembly have passed a package of bills that will provide funding for the Discover Niagara Shuttle. The bills await the

Governor's signature and are funded through a hotel occupancy tax for Niagara County and the Cities of Niagara Falls, and Lockport.

So noted.

Correspondence received from resident Victor Battey expressing interest in purchasing the paper road between 280 & 290 Glenvale Road previously discussed at the June 13, 2019 Board meeting.

Mayor Reynolds stated that this will be discussed during the work session.

Correspondence received from Raymond Mahtook, Lockport Street regarding parking issues on Water Street.

Mayor Reynolds stated that this will be discussed during the work session.

Thank you letter received from Janet Brooks of the Youngstown Garden Club thanking Mayor Reynolds for his help setting up and taking down the tables and thanking the Board for their help with the annual perennial sale.

So noted.

Resignation letter received from new police recruit Evan Mathewson effective June 28, 2019.

Chief Schuey explained that Mr. Mathewson received a job opportunity that he could not pass up out of state and although he just graduated from the academy, he made the decision to pursue the opportunity.

Correspondence received from members of the community regarding creating a Charrette which would include community members, businesses and government to focus on the future of the Village.

So noted.

Correspondence from Troy & Banks Utility and Telecommunication Consultants stating "the first phase of audit work was completed on the electric and gas bills. . . . The analysis determined that there were **no errors** in rates charged, monthly reads, demand on kwh calculations, or metering, at this time."

So noted.

Correspondence from the Niagara County Office of the Aging for the yearly program monitoring of the Senior Transportation Program stating, "I found no problems with your program. It appears that the seniors of Youngstown are benefiting from the great job you are doing with the transportation program." The entire monitoring report was included in the correspondence.

So noted.

The Youngstown Yacht Club has announced that the Can Am Challenge scheduled for July 26-28, 2019, has been cancelled this year due to the safety concerns with the high water levels.

Mayor Reynolds stated that as Ms. McNaughton stated earlier they are still having a scaled down regatta and calling it the "Can-Am Lite" for local boaters.

The Village Board has announced that the kid's fishing derby and the community picnic scheduled for August 3, 2019 have been cancelled due to safety concerns with the high water levels and conflicting events.

So noted.

The Falkner Park summer concert series continues on Friday nights at 7:00 p.m. with Alex Renee Big Swing Band. Bring your chair and enjoy the free concert series on Friday's in July and August.

So noted.

AGENDA:

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS:

Approval of the Abstract of Audited Vouchers for the period from June 13-July 11, 2019 in the amount of \$87,897.00

General:	\$35,584.74
Water:	\$ 25,077.66
Sewer:	\$ 22,889.92
Trust:	\$ 4,344.68
Total	\$ 87,897.00

A motion to approve the Abstract of Audited Vouchers as presented above was made by Trustee Zastrow and seconded by Trustee Fox. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

ITEMS:

BUILDING USE:

Friends of the Library are requesting use of the gym and parking lot on August 16-19, 2019 to hold a garage sale, bake sale and hot dog sale. Insurance is on file.

A motion to approve the Building Use as presented above was made by Trustee Fox and seconded by Trustee Comerford. Deputy Mayor Lockhart asked if there were any conflicts and Deputy Clerk D'Luhy stated there were none that she was aware of. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Request from Lewiston Porter Youth Football to adjust their approved schedule from August, to July 22 to use Veterans Park for practices. The group would also like to request a pod delivered as they did last year.

Mayor Reynolds stated they Board had approved the use in August, but they are asking to start using the park earlier because they cannot use the fields at Lew-Port as planned. Mayor Reynolds asked if there were any conflicts with the Recreation Department. Deputy Clerk D'Luhy stated she would double check with Clerk-Treasurer Brown tomorrow, but did not think so. A motion to approve the use if there are no conflicts with Recreation was made by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and seconded by Trustee Comerford. Deputy Mayor Lockhart added to the motion the allowance of the pod being delivered. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Attorney Caserta stated that after meeting with the Library about their contract, the Board was asked to provide a letter stating that the Board supports a ten-year commitment to the Library for their application for a grant for a new air conditioner. The motion to approve and write this letter

was made by Trustee Zastrow and seconded by Trustee Comerford. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made authorizing Mayor Reynolds to enter into a new contract with the Library (as amended during the library meeting) by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and seconded by Trustee Zastrow. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

AUTHORIZATIONS:

Authorization for Mayor Reynolds to sign the contract with Williamson Law Books for the water/sewer software in the amount of \$1,160.00 for the 2019-2020 year.

A motion to sign the contract as presented was made by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and seconded by Trustee Fox. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Authorization to transfer \$10,219.00 in water other charges to NYCLASS for the annual bond payment.

A motion to transfer the funds as presented was made by Deputy Mayor Lockhart and seconded Trustee Fox. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Authorization for appropriation transfers: General, Water and Sewer adjustments for 2018-2019 fiscal year end as noted in attachments.

A motion to complete the appropriation transfers as presented was made by Trustee Fox and seconded by Trustee Lockart. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Authorization for Police Chief Schuey to hire Officer Adriano Medici to replace new recruit Evan Mathewson per his resignation.

A motion to hire Officer Medici was made by Trustee Comerford and seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval for Police Chief Schuey to order a new time clock at a cost of \$472.35.

Chief Schuey explained that the current timeclock doesn't work all the time and stated it was 30 years old. A motion to approve the purchase was made by Trustee Zastrow and seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart. Mayor Reynolds asked if Chief Schuey had the money in his budget and he agreed. Mayor Reynolds also explained that the Board needed to approve the purchase because it is an expense over \$200. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Board will enter into a Work Session following the regular meeting. The Board will enter into Executive Session following the work session for Union contract negotiation. The next Village Board meeting and work session will be August 8, 2019.

So noted.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

BOARD REPORTS

Trustee Fox stated that he and Deputy Mayor Lockhart met with National Grid on the street lighting proposal and presented the Board with an analysis on the cost savings between the New York Power Authority (NYPA) and National Grid. He stated that if the Board went with NYPA, the conversion would include the need to purchase lights for about \$18,000 and then approximately \$80,000 to do the engineering, construction, labor and installation of the lights. Currently there is a rebate of \$7,300 that would come back to the Village.

Trustee Fox explained that National Grid would cost nothing to convert the lights. Originally, there was going to be a cost to convert of about \$2000, but since that original discussion the lights have depreciated and there is no longer that expense. However, he explained that the \$7,300 rebate would still come back to the Village for the conversion.

Trustee Fox stated that the biggest issue is the maintenance cost of the lights. Currently the Village pays for maintenance on 145 lights at the cost of between \$75-78 per light per year. National Grid will charge \$80 per light once converted to LED so it will be about \$11,600 per year in maintenance. If the Village uses NYPA for the conversion, the maintenance will be the responsibility of the Village and it is hard to estimate what that cost will become. At one point many of the municipalities were going to go with NYPA and maintenance could have been done through a consortium to save on the cost. Trustee Fox stated that some of the larger municipalities have decided to not use NYPA and therefore shared maintenance costs will increase because there are less lights total. He added that the lights are owned by National Grid if the Village goes with National Grid and therefore, the Village does not need to purchase the lights. However, with a lifespan of 20 years, if the Village goes with NYPA, in 20 years there will be the added expense of purchasing new lights.

Trustee Fox stated that either plan will save the Village about \$4000 per year in energy savings. He continued that the financing costs with NYPA are significant and for many years, the Village will not save anything. In summary, Trustee Fox recommended to the Board that the Village work with National Grid on the contract as it is less of a risk. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated his concern was that once you are no longer with National Grid, you are committed to maintaining the lights for the long haul and the cost could add up quickly. He stated he has a much stronger comfort level going with National Grid at this point than NYPA for these reasons. Trustee Fox stated that if there are any other questions, he is happy to answer them.

A motion to accept the National Grid lighting proposal to convert to LED was made by Trustee Fox and seconded by Trustee Zastrow. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Reynolds thanked Trustee Fox for the research and hard work that he put into reviewing the proposals and reporting to the Board. Trustee Fox stated that the Village will be able to determine the lights they would like and the amount of light needed for different areas so there are choices to make once the contract starts.

Trustee Zastrow had nothing to report.

Trustee Comerford reported that the Recreation Commission will meet next on July 15 and on Friday, August 2 will be the Celebrity Bartending event with a basket auction for the Nancy Price Scholarship at the Stone Jug.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart thanked Trustee Fox again for his work on the LED lighting. He continued that he has been spot checking the Lake levels. The reports that he has seen and from what he is hearing for the Great Lakes as a whole, the water levels are expected to start receding.

He stated that if this is “the new norm” it is going to hurt this area along with other areas along the Lake. He continued that the wildlife/flora/fauna that was supposed to benefit from the water levels have actually been wiped out. He stated he will continue to monitor the levels and will stay in touch with the Jetboat and Yacht Club in addition to keeping an eye on the north dock.

Mayor Reynolds stated that the Niagara Orleans County Planning Committee met yesterday as created by the Governor that will address the water levels. Members of the legislator, Town Supervisors, Mayors, etc., are a part of the committee from both Niagara and Orleans County and although Mayor Reynolds was not able to attend the meeting, he will be speaking to members to get an update prior to the next meeting. The purpose of the committee is to prepare for the future if the current water levels will be “the new normal.” Trustee Fox stated that if Mayor Reynolds cannot attend a meeting, he would be willing to go if it was allowed. Deputy Mayor stated that although we are not shut down like other local areas, many of the tourism companies are not sending their buses because of the water levels which impacts our economy – from Youngstown, to the Fort and even to Niagara Falls due to the trickle-down effect. He continued with examples of how the water levels have effected other areas in the State. Trustee Zastrow stated that the Can-Am has been a huge draw of people to the Village and this year it has been cancelled for non-locals. Trustee Comerford stated that the Hospice Clambake was moved to Porter on the Lake because it cannot be held in Youngstown. Trustee Fox stated that the events in the Village are changing because of the water levels. Deputy Mayor stated that in some cases it has taken 20 years to build up these events and in only a few years they are being broken down because of the water levels.

PUBLIC COMMENT--all comments shall be kept to 3 minutes and directed to the Village Board of Trustees.

Mr. Mathook stated that he has been in contact with Senator Ortt as well as trying to contact Ron Peters, State Park District Manager to explain his situation with the boat docks and the limitations he has because of the water levels. He explained that he cannot launch his boat at numerous docks and it is really affecting his ability to be on the Lake fishing.

Building Inspector Stevens asked if the Board had considered using jersey barriers to help define the edges of the boat ramp. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated that the water is receding a little bit and if the edge can be defined then they may be able to open the ramp back up. Building Inspector Stevens stated that the barriers could be used elsewhere in the Village once the water recedes and may solve the problem to define the edges for safety. Mr. Mathook stated that he would be happy to meet with any of the Board members to formulate ideas to allow the boat ramp to open and how to work within the current water levels.

A motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting and enter into the Work Session at 9:19 p.m. was made by Trustee Zastrow and seconded by Trustee Comerford. With no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.