

Village of Youngstown

VILLAGE CENTER • 240 LOCKPORT STREET
P. O. BOX 168
YOUNGSTOWN, NEW YORK 14174-0168



INCORPORATED:
APRIL 18, 1854

TELEPHONE:
(716) 745-7721
FAX:
(716) 745-3400

Village of Youngstown Board of Trustees Minutes – April 9, 2020

Due to COVID-19 regulations and Governor Cuomo's Executive order 202.1, the April 9, 2020 meeting of the Board of Trustees was held via Zoom, hosted by Jennifer Pauly of the Niagara River Chamber of Commerce. Jennifer Pauly took attendance as participants joined the meeting via computer or dial in by phone.

PRESENT: Mayor Reynolds, Deputy Mayor Lockhart, Trustee Comerford, Trustee Zastrow, Trustee Fox, Attorney Caserta, Chief Schuey, Engineer Lannon, Grant Writer Rotella, Clerk-Treasurer Brown, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Freiermuth, Jennifer Pauly, Rick Lohr, Sue MacNaughton. **ABSENT:** Superintendent Muller, Building Inspector Stevens.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order by opening the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Open Public Hearing:

Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Youngstown, 240 Lockport Street, Youngstown, NY will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday April 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of hearing all interested parties concerning the following:

Tentative budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year commencing June 1, 2020 and ending May 31, 2021. Notice is also hereby given that the compensation to be paid to each member of the Board of Trustees from all sources remains unchanged and is as follows: Mayor, \$7,498.00, Deputy Mayor, \$6,151.00 and each Trustee, \$5,656.00. The tentative budget is available at the Village Clerk's Office and may be inspected during office hours.

By order of the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Youngstown, New York.

Date: April 1, 2020

Wendy J. Brown
Clerk-Treasurer/Village of Youngstown

Public comment on Public Hearing:

Village of Youngstown Board of Trustees Minutes, April 9, 2020

Mayor Reynolds called for public comment. With no public comment on the budget, Mayor Reynolds left the hearing open in case others joined the meeting or there were comments further into the meeting.

Close Public Hearing

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

With no regular public comments, Mayor Reynolds moved on to department reports.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE: Chief Schuey turned his monthly report in. Chief Schuey reported that the department would be participating in the Village Easter Parade on Saturday April 11, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. with the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company and the Youngstown Lion's Club. Chief Schuey requested approval for the purchase of two gun racks at a cost of \$258.00 each.

Mayor Reynolds polled the board on the request. Trustee Zastrow made a motion to approve the purchase of two gun racks, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart.

Trustee Zastrow-yes Deputy Mayor Lockhart-yes Trustee Fox-yes Trustee Comerford-audio issue Mayor Reynolds-yes.

Motion was carried.

Chief Schuey updated the Board on a complaint received regarding a fire pit burning too close to a home. Chief Schuey stated that Building Inspector Stevens has resolved the issues with the parties involved.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Absent

ENGINEER: Engineer Lannon confirmed that the REDI group has accepted the Village of Youngstown's proposal with minor comments. Engineer Lannon continued that the original grant specified 700 linear feet and the project is covering 1600 linear feet. Engineer Lannon will clarify this and proceed with the design submitted. Trustee Zastrow asked if the State viewed the difference in footage as an objection or a distinction. Engineer Lannon stated his interpretation was that it was an acknowledgement of the difference in footage. Engineer Lannon will clarify this with the REDI Commission.

GRANT WRITER: Grant Writer Rotella reported that the LWRP/CFA are still open. Grant Writer Rotella asked the Board to consider completion of the next round on the LWRP. The grant for the NYS Archives is in process and the Village should receive information towards June. The Board continued with a discussion on the match for the LWRP. Grant Writer Rotella stated that the grant is a 75% 25% grant and is an 18 month process; the 25% the Village would owe would not be due until the end of the 18 months. It was noted that Grant Writer Rotella's audio connection kept fading in and out.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Absent

ATTORNEY: Attorney Caserta reported that he will be taking the COVID-19 webinar sponsored by NYCOM regarding hosting public meetings and hearings as well as Clerk-Treasurer Brown. Mayor Reynolds stated he will also be taking this webinar. Attorney Caserta stated that a resident contacted him regarding an ongoing issue over driveway drainage. Attorney Caserta stated that he will work with Building Inspector Stevens on the issue. Attorney Caserta reported on a subpoena received regarding a suit filed by Gary Smith against Modern Corporation and Buffalo Recycling. The subpoena was filled out by the Clerk and Attorney Caserta will be returning it to the appropriate location. Attorney Caserta stated the Courts remain closed through April 30, 2020 at this time. Attorney Caserta stated the fire company contract is being reviewed and updated. Trustee Zastrow will provide updates to Attorney Caserta. Trustee Zastrow asked for an update on the sewer contract. Attorney Caserta stated that Fort Niagara State Park is still reviewing with the Town of Porter and the Village is waiting on the Town at this time.

CLERK'S OFFICE: Clerk-Treasurer Brown reported that the March financials have been distributed to all department heads and the Board. Clerk-Treasurer Brown stated that the Office continues to operate within the parameters set.

MINUTES

Approval of, or changes to, the Board Meeting minutes from March 12, 2020. Work session was cancelled on March 26, 2020 due to COVID-19 regulations.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Trustee Comerford. Mayor Reynolds polled the Board:

Deputy Mayor Lockhart-yes Trustee Fox-yes Trustee Zastrow-yes
Trustee Comerford-yes Mayor Reynolds-yes

CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence received.

So noted.

AGENDA:

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS:

Approval of the Abstract (11&12) of Audited Vouchers for the period from March 13-April 9, 2020 in the amount of \$56,802.63.

General:	\$24,126.47
Water:	\$29,055.54
Sewer:	\$ 3,620.62
<u>Trust:</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total	\$56,802.63

Motion to approve the abstract of audited vouchers was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Trustee Fox. Mayor Reynolds polled the Board.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart-yes Trustee Fox-yes Trustee Zastrow-yes
Trustee Comerford-yes Mayor Reynolds-yes

ITEMS:

APPOINTMENTS:

Approval to appoint the following Election Inspectors for the May 19, 2020 Village Election (postponed until at least June 1, 2020):

Ann Johnston-Republican Lisa Lucas-Democrat
Michael Blenk-Republican Keith Hartloff-Democrat

Motion to appoint the Election inspectors as noted was made by Trustee Comerford, seconded by Trustee Zastrow. Mayor Reynolds polled the Board.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart-yes Trustee Fox-yes Trustee Zastrow-yes
Trustee Comerford-yes Mayor Reynolds-yes

AUTHORIZATION:

Authorization for the Clerk-Treasurer to return unpaid water/sewer bills with relevy fees for the quarter ending December 31, 2019 to Niagara County for inclusion to the Village property taxes for 2020-2021 in the amount of \$15,885.70 in water/sewer charges, \$4,950.00 in relevy fees, representing 33 accounts for a total of \$20,835.70.

Motion to approve the Clerk-Treasurer to return the unpaid water/sewer bills with relevy to Niagara County for inclusion on the Village property tax bills was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart. Mayor Reynolds polled the Board.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart-yes Trustee Fox-yes Trustee Fox-yes
Trustee Comerford-yes Mayor Reynolds-yes

BUILDING USE:

Building is currently closed to the public.

So noted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Board meeting will be May 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Reynolds noted the work session for April 23, 2020 is cancelled due to COVID-19 regulations.

So noted.

Mayor Reynolds called for any public comment on the public hearing. With no public comment on the hearing, motion to close the public hearing was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Trustee Comerford. Mayor Reynolds polled the Board.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart-yes Trustee Fox-yes Trustee Fox-yes
Trustee Comerford-yes Mayor Reynolds-yes

Mayor Reynolds closed the hearing at 7:41 p.m.

As there was no public comment to the public hearing, Mayor Reynolds called for a motion to adopt the 2020-2021 budget. Motion to adopt the 2020-2021 budget as presented was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Deputy mayor Lockhart. Mayor Reynolds polled the Board.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart-yes Trustee Fox-yes Trustee Fox-yes
Trustee Comerford-yes Mayor Reynolds-yes

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

BOARD REPORTS:

Trustee Comerford reported that the Recreation Commission has changed the venue for the Nancy Price 5K run. The Commission has made the run a virtual run; details are available on their website. The runners will run on their own and turn their times in. Awards will be given at a later date. Mayor Reynolds added that there will not be trophies this year, but gift certificates to local businesses will be awarded.

The Board discussed the Street Dance, which is currently being reviewed and will most likely be postponed or cancelled.

Trustee Zastrow reported that at 1:00 p.m. Saturday April 11, 2020, the Easter Bunny will be visiting the Village with the assistance of the Youngstown Police and Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company via a fire truck. Social distancing parameters have been set.

Trustee Fox reported that National Grid should be starting the lighting project soon. Trustee Fox continued that he is working with Deputy Mayor Lockhart on obtaining road barriers for Water Street should they be needed if flooding occurs. Trustee Fox stated he read in The Buffalo News, the levels according to the IJC are 8 inches lower at this point. Mayor Reynolds stated that the Army Corp of Engineers is stating the water is 8 inches above last year's level at this time. Trustee Fox stated that since there is conflicting data on the water levels; the barriers will be available to the Village if they are needed.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported that he has been speaking with Jonathan Schultz regarding the sandbags for Water Street. The sandbags are currently in Orleans County as there is difficulty finding someone to haul them. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated the data he has shows the level 8 inches higher than this time last year. The Village will learn more in the coming weeks.

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

With no further reports, motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Trustee Comerford. All in favor, motion was carried.

Submitted by:

Wendy Brown
Clerk-Treasurer