



INCORPORATED:
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Village of Youngstown

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Village of Youngstown Board of Trustees Minutes – May 14, 2020

PRESENT: Mayor Reynolds, Deputy Mayor Lockhart, Trustee Comerford, Trustee Zastrow, Trustee Fox (7:20 p.m.) Attorney Caserta, Superintendent Muller, Chief Schuey, Building Inspector Stevens, Engineer Lannon, Grant Writer Rotella, Clerk-Treasurer Brown, several members of the public.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting held via Zoom due to NYS COVID-19 regulations.

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT--all comments shall be kept to 3 minutes and directed to the Village Board of Trustees. Please identify yourself before addressing the Board.

Mayor Reynolds called for any public comment. With no public comment, Mayor Reynolds moved on to Departmental reports.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE: Chief Schuey turned his monthly report in. Chief Schuey reported he has been attending daily conference meetings and reported details about the “Are you ok” system for the elderly. The program allows people to register to check on the elderly. A phone call is made daily, if there is no answer, someone will be sent to check on the welfare of the person registered. Lewiston Police Department sets the information up and handles the check in call. Chief Schuey will forward the information to the Clerk’s Office. Trustee Zastrow asked if Lewiston or the County handles, Chief Schuey stated it is Lewiston Police.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Superintendent Muller reported that the DPW repaired the stairs on Main Street. Superintendent Muller continued that the DPW is working on storm sewers, issues on Northfield Drive, cutting grass, brush pick up and dirt pick up. Superintendent Muller stated there are new hand sanitizing stations that have been placed in the Village Center building and at the DPW. Superintendent Muller inquired about the part time position for the DPW regarding summer help, Mayor Reynolds stated that he had been advised by the County we were able to go ahead with filling the position as it relates to essential services, Superintendent Muller then asked about the full time position that is now open for the Laborer position. Mayor Reynolds

stated that at this time due to unknown budgetary issues, he is not recommending the position be filled. Mayor Reynolds stated the position is not being eliminated; however, the Board will need to assess things as we move into the next few months. Trustee Zastrow stated that he spoke with the County Treasurer's office and sales tax is projected to be down 20% resulting in an approximate \$75,000.00 shortage for the year, Trustee Zastrow concurred the Laborer position should not be filled at this time. Superintendent Muller advised the Board that there are safety issues to consider by only having three people working and ask the Board to consider everyone's safety when making their determination in filling the position.

ENGINEER: Engineer Lannon reported that REDI report was submitted in February has been reviewed with minor revisions suggested. Engineer Lannon has been speaking with Amy DeGaetano from the Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, and the Village is not limited to a certain number of feet, but is limited to the monetary amount of the grant. Engineer Lannon stated Amy has requested a conference call next week where everyone can review the next step in the grant agreement. Engineer Lannon stated site agreements will need to be obtained with Mr. Lohr, Youngstown Yacht Club, and others in the area. Engineer Lannon the project design information would be discussed on the conference call and asked the Board to consider what day would be acceptable for the call, Monday or Tuesday as the State representative is not available later in the week. Engineer Lannon stated his proposal for the design phase has been sent, and it will be four month duration scheduled for the fall. The amount will be \$200,000.00. Trustee Zastrow asked if the time line for completion is the same. Engineer Lannon stated it was the same with construction beginning in the fall. Mayor Reynolds stated the proposal sent for the design and construction phase looked good. Deputy Mayor Lockhart stated he felt things should keep rolling and the Board should approve the plan at this time.

Deputy Mayor Lockhart made a motion to accept the design and construction plan as presented by Engineer Lannon on behalf of GHD be accepted. Motion was seconded by Trustee Zastrow. Roll call was taken by Clerk-Treasurer Brown:

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

All in favor, motion was carried.

Engineer Lannon stated he will coordinate times for the call next week and advise the Board.

GRANT WRITER: Grant Writer Rotella reported that the CFA has been delayed and remains open at this time. Grant Writer Rotella discussed finishing the LWRP and recreational improvements at parks and asked the Board to consider these for submission. Grant Writer Rotella reported that the paperwork for the repurpose of LED sign project is not dead and he will pursue the repurpose of the grant. Clerk-Treasurer Brown asked if the NYS Archives grant was on hold or if it was continuing. Grant Writer Rotella stated

that it was continuing and letters should be sent soon. It looks favorable that we have not received a declination notice as of yet.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Building Inspector Stevens reported that the trees he has been working with residents on are being taken care of. Trustee Zastrow asked if the State took the trees down on Lockport Street. Building Inspector Stevens reported they took the ones closest to the road.

ATTORNEY: Attorney Caserta reported that he has been monitoring the Governor's executive orders and stated the Village elections have been postponed until September 15, 2020. Absentee ballots will need to be distributed, but there has been no direction from the Board of Elections as of yet. Deputy Mayor Lockhart will remain in Office until the next Election. It was noted March sales tax was \$2,000.00 higher than last year and that Attorney Caserta had heard sales tax would be down up to 30% lower this year.

CLERK'S OFFICE: Clerk-Treasurer Brown stated the April financials were distributed to the Board and Department Heads. Clerk-Treasurer Brown stated that the office was meeting all the necessary deadlines and Village taxes are being prepared.

MINUTES

Approval of, or changes to, the Board Meeting minutes from April 9, 2020. Work session was cancelled on April 23, 2020 due to COVID-19 regulations.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Trustee Comerford, seconded by Trustee Zastrow. Roll call was taken:

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

All in favor, motion was carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Notice from the Mighty Niagara Half Marathon that the event scheduled for September 19, 2020 has been cancelled.

So noted.

AGENDA:

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS:

Approval of the Abstract of Audited Vouchers for the period from April 9 - May 14, 2020 in the amount of \$82,604.99.

General: \$74,957.82
Water: \$ 1,572.13
Sewer: \$ 5,675.04
Trust: \$ 400.00
Total \$82,604.99

Motion to approve the abstract of audited vouchers as presented was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Trustee Comerford. Roll call was taken:

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

ITEMS:

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution that the 2020-2021 Village of Youngstown budget be accepted as adopted April 9, 2020 and there be levied and assessed against the real property of the Village of Youngstown the following sum for Village Government for the fiscal year 2020-2021 with a tax rate of \$7.31 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation; for the General fund \$698,726.00 and for the Mayor to sign the tax warrant.

Motion to approve the resolution as noted was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lockhart. Roll call was taken:

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

Resolution to amend the Verizon lease for upgrades to replace outdated equipment.

Attorney Caserta discussed the upgrades to the equipment and lease Verizon is requesting. The building permit and payment has been received in anticipation of the approval of the amendment to the lease. Trustee Zastrow asked why the Village continued to amend the lease and not request a new lease. The Board and Attorney discussed this issue and Attorney Caserta will request a new lease with Verizon.

AUTHORIZATION:

Authorization for Mayor Reynolds to sign the annual software agreement with Williamson Law Book Company for Municipal Accounting Software 5/1/20-4/30/21 at a cost of \$1,251.00.

Motion to approve Mayor Reynolds signing the software agreement with Williamson Law was made by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Trustee Comerford. Roll call was taken:

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

All in favor, motion was carried.

Authorization to credit the water penalties from Niagara Frontier State Park account in the amount of \$211.11, and \$2,471.48 for a total of \$2,682.59. The October and January bills were paid late, however, the State does not pay late fees.

Motion to approve the credit for water penalties was made by Trustee Fox, seconded by Trustee Zastrow. Trustee Fox stated as Albany will not pay the penalty the Village does not have much choice in the matter. Roll call was taken:

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

All in favor, motion was carried.

BUILDING USE:

Building is currently closed to the public.

So noted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Board meeting will be June 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. and will be the annual reorganizational meeting.

So noted.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

BOARD REPORTS:

Trustee Zastrow reported that there is no new information on a rescue package from the Government for Municipalities at this time.

Trustee Comerford reported that the Recreation Commission met on April 18th via teleconference. The minutes from the meeting have been distributed to the Board. Trustee Comerford met with Dotty Riordan regarding the dedication for the sign for the Underground Railroad and the ceremony has been placed on hold at this time. The June concert series has also been placed on hold. Trustee Comerford stated there were 54 participants in the virtual Nancy Price 5K. There are three applications for scholarships this year. The Falkner park program has

been placed on hold for now as well as the celebrity bartending event. Mayor Reynolds asked about the notation in the Recreation minutes regarding the refinishing of the gym floor. Mayor Reynolds noted the minutes stated that the cost would come from the Village budget. Trustee Comerford stated it was on hold until at least late summer and that he had advised the Commission the Village would not handle the cost; the cost would be from the Recreation budget. Trustee Comerford stated things were on hold for this year.

Trustee Fox reported that the street lights have started to be replaced. The Board discussed how they have seen some of the new lights and they seem to be nice,

Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported that he has agreed to remain in Office until the Village election can take place in September. Deputy Mayor Lockhart reported that the Lake levels are down so far this year at, 247.24. The jersey barriers and sandbags are available if needed. Mayor Reynolds stated that the Village hopefully would not need them this year.

Mayor Reynolds reported that there have been signs placed around the Village that read stay smart, stay 6 feet apart, and reminding people to wear a mask if they cannot keep social distance.

Attorney Caserta stated that he needs an Executive session regarding litigation.

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Mayor Reynolds opened the meeting up for public comment.

Rick Lohr stated that he hoped everyone was keeping safe and that the percentage that GHD was charging for the water front project falls into industry guidelines. Mr. Lohr stated he felt everything was going well.

Chief Schuey asked if there had been a decision on the Street Dance hosted by the YBPA yet. Trustee Zastrow stated that they are having a meeting 5/15 and would decide then. Mayor Reynolds stated he had a discussion with the Butera's regarding the decision and stated that the feeling was for safety it would be cancelled. Mayor Reynolds stated that he would have to cancel the event if it was not cancelled by the association.

Building Inspector Stevens stated that he has the information for the permit for Verizon and will hold everything until the Board has a new agreement and gives their ok.

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting and move into Executive session was made at 8:00 p.m. by Trustee Zastrow, seconded by Trustee Comerford. Roll call was taken:

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

Motion to adjourn the Executive session was made at 8:13 p.m. by Trustee Comerford, seconded by Trustee Zastrow.

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