

Village of Youngstown

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INCORPORATED:
APRIL 18, 1854

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Village of Youngstown Board of Trustees Minutes – August 12, 2021

PRESENT: Mayor Reynolds, Deputy Mayor Fox, Trustee Comerford, Trustee Quarantillo, Trustee Reisman, Attorney Caserta, Chief Suitor, Building Inspector Stevens, Clerk Treasurer Brown. **ABSENT:** Grant Writer Rotella, Engineer Lannon, Superintendent Muller, Recreation Director Gruarin.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Reynolds then opened the meeting to public comment.

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

David Caserto of Third Street addressed the Board regarding a fence issue with his neighbor. Mr. Caserto shared several photos of a fence that is unstable. Building Inspector Stevens was aware of the issue and advised Mr. Caserto to remove the fence if it was on his property. Mr. Caserto wanted approval from the Board to remove the fence and be assured he would not be arrested for the action due to the ongoing issues between neighbors. The Board confirmed to Mr. Caserto that he was able to remove the fence without any issues.

John Mies of the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company addressed the Board. Mr. Mies stated that the Fire Co voted on July 1st for a contract and wondered why the Village Board had not voted on the contract as well. Mayor Reynolds stated that the contract had not been agreed to be able to be voted on. Mayor Reynolds stated that the negotiation committee met once with the Fire Co and the figure used in the contract prepared by the Fire Company lawyers was incorrect. It was notice and brought to their attention the next morning. Attorney Caserta has requested subsequent meetings without a response. Informal meetings have occurred twice with no further results. Mayor Reynolds asked Mr. Mies to sit down again so the contract can be agreed to by both sides and brought to a vote with the Village Board. Deputy Mayor Fox stated the Board was anxious to resolve the contract issues and reach an agreement. Mr. Mies stated he did not want the attorneys present for the meeting. Mayor Reynolds stated that the Attorney was part of the Village negotiating team and would be present.

Mickey Suitor of the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company addressed the Board by stating he has been involved in the Fire Co for 60 years and never had an issue with a Board and he blames

the Attorney for the problem. Mr. Suitor stated the Attorney should not be sitting with the Board and should not address anyone speaking when they are speaking to the Board. Mr. Suitor stated we need a good attorney and left the room.

Deputy Mayor Fox and Mr. Mies discussed scheduling a meeting to sit down and work things out.

With no further public comment Mayor Reynolds moved on to departmental reports.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE: Chief Suitor reported that they have information on the recent vandalism and will be contacting the families involved. There are possibilities of monetary restitution, cleanup work, and Attorney Caserta added it can be a civil matter in family court. Chief Suitor will speak to Attorney Caserta for options. Chief Suitor stated funding for previous grants has been reduced. The Board may want to consider using the \$1,000 grant for body camera for regular cameras for the parks. Chief Suitor will look into a federal grant for the body cameras. Chief Suitor stated there should be no arrest issues with the fence removal on Third Street. Trustee Quarantillo asked about the schedule, Chief Suitor advised that Sergeant Ullery is handling the schedule on the new app and there are some glitches with the learning curve.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Superintendent Muller was absent. Mayor Reynolds stated that Superintendent Muller was working on obtaining estimate for next year's paving and for this year's sidewalk repairs.

ENGINEER: Engineer Lannon was absent but sent an email update that he is still waiting for the easement agreements. Attorney Caserta stated he had sent the revised agreements out. The Board discussed the length of time it has been for a reply. Attorney Caserta will advise the YYC and Mr. Lohr that they have until August 20, 2021 to sign and return the easement agreements. The project will move forward after that date if the agreements are not signed/received.

GRANT WRITER: Grant Writer Rotella was absent but sent an update via email. A call will be scheduled to gather info on the NYS Archives application and reapply for the grant. EFC application will be open soon and our lift station project can be submitted. There is a TAP/CMAQ application open for trails, sidewalks, and Cares Act Funding for assistance to seniors and some businesses. The Board should review and advise of any interest in the programs.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Building Inspector Steven reported that there are some issues with mowing vacant properties. The DPW maintains some as there are safety concerns; however, they are private property and should be handled by the owners.

Deputy Mayor Fox knew both owners and will speak with them. Trustee Quarantillo asked how the Board was notified of any new businesses in the Village. Building Inspector Stevens stated that they do not have to notify us as they are private businesses. If there was something to do with construction or codes he would know. When something is heard about a business coming in, Building Inspector Stevens notifies the Clerk's Office who will pass any information on.

ATTORNEY: Attorney Caserta reported that the Niagara County IDA will be holding a public hearing in our Board Room on August 30, at 10:00 a.m. regarding EW and KS Holdings for the Griffon.

CLERKS OFFICE: Clerk-Treasurer Brown reported that the July financials had been distributed to the Board for their review. The auditor will be in to finish up information for the May 31st year and AUD report. Tax bills and water bills are being collected at this time.

RECREATION: Recreation Director Gruarin was absent. Trustee Reisman reported that this season for the Vets park programs went very well with great attendance for the basketball, kickball and tennis programs. The splash park is going well and wraps up August 20th. Discussion continued around expansion of the programs next year. There are two Commission members that will be stepping down and the Commission is looking for replacements.

MINUTES

Approval of, or changes to, the Village Board meeting minutes of July 10, 2021.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Comerford. All in favor, motion was carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter of resignation received from Officer Michael Rozyczko effective July 9, 2021.

So noted.

Letter of resignation received from Office James Bissell effective July 9, 2021.

So noted.

Notice of application of on-premises liquor license with the NYS Liquor Authority for Niagara Jet Holdings, LLC dba Niagara Jet City Cruises Anchored by Hornblower, 555 Water Street, Youngstown, NY 14174.

So noted.

AGENDA:

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS:

Approval of the Abstract of Audited Vouchers for the period from July 9-August 12, 2021 in the amount of \$59,731.02.

| | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| General: | \$35,088.86 |
| Water: \$ | 0.00 |
| Sewer: | \$22,442.16 |
| <u>Trust:</u> | <u>\$ 2,200.00</u> |
| Total | \$59,731.02 |

Motion to approve the abstract of audited vouchers was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Fox. All in favor, motion was carried.

BUILDING USE:

Request from Town of Porter Recreation to hold adult chair yoga on Tuesdays beginning September 1, 2021 from 4:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m. in the Cora Gushee Room. Insurance is on file.

Motion to approve the building use was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Comerford. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request from Town of Porter Recreation to hold community yoga on Tuesdays beginning September 1, 2021 from 6:15 p.m.- 7:35 p.m. in the Cora Gushee Room. Insurance is on file.

Motion to approve the building use was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Reisman. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request from Town of Porter Recreation to hold gentle yoga on Wednesday's beginning September 1, 2021 from 6:15 p.m.- 7:35 p.m. in the Cora Gushee Room. Insurance is on file.

Motion to approve the building use was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Comerford. All in favor, motion was carried.

RESOLUTION:

Request for resolution pursuant to NY Village Law Section 10-1006, for approval of Isabella Hall as a member of the Youngtown Volunteer Fire Company. The Youngstown Fire Company has accepted Ms. Hall as a member of the fire company on July 12th she resides on Wingate Place.

Deputy Mayor Fox made a motion to approve the resolution, Trustee Comerford, seconded. Attorney Caserta addressed the Board noting that the Fire Company is required to perform a background check on any applicant. In order for the Village to approve the member via resolution, the letter of request from the Fire Company needs to state no negative results were found in the background check. The Village has requested this from the Fire Company. Deputy Mayor Fox asked if the resolution could be approved pending receipt of the required letter. Attorney Caserta directed that it could be approved. Motion to approve the resolution contingent on receiving the letter stating no negative results were found in the background check was made by Deputy Mayor Fox, seconded by Trustee Comerford. All in favor, motion was carried.

ENGINEERING RECOVERY COST REGULATIONS:

Discussion regarding fees incurred with GHD in relation to any projects conducted in the Village requiring SEQR review, storm-water management, sewage disposal system connection/admin or any other additional expenses incurred by the Village in a project.

The Board discussed the item referencing fees that would need to be recovered on projects. Engineer Lannon was absent and therefore the fees are unknown at this time. Discussion will be moved to September when Engineer Lannon can offer some input.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Village Board meeting will be September 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The Board will enter into Executive session immediately following the regular meeting for litigation matters.

So noted. Mayor Reynolds added that there will not be a work session scheduled for September 23, 2021 at this time.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

BOARD REPORTS:

Trustee Comerford reported that there is a new café/market/bakery coming into the Rite Aid plaza this fall. Everyone is excited and looking forward to this. Another business, Barker Outdoor has also opened in the Village. The next YBPA meeting will be October 12.

Mayor Reynolds reported that the Labor Day Parade will be September 6th at noon on Main Street. The Trustees will walk in the parade.

With no further reports Mayor Reynolds opened the meeting to public comment.

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

With no public comment Trustee Quarantillo made a motion at 8:08 p.m. to adjourn the regular meeting and enter into Executive session. Motion was seconded by Trustee Comerford. All in favor motion was carried.

Motion to adjourn the Executive session and enter into the regular session was made by Trustee Quarantillo at 9:11 p.m., seconded by Trustee Reisman. All in favor, motion was carried.

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made by Trustee Quarantillo at 9:12 p.m., seconded by Trustee Comerford. All in favor, motion was carried.

Submitted by:

Wendy Brown
Clerk-Treasurer