



INCORPORATED:  
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# Village of Youngstown

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## Work Session Minutes – February 23, 2023

**PRESENT:** Mayor Reisman, Deputy Mayor Heath, Trustee Quarantillo, Trustee Stella, Trustee Stevens, Attorney Caserta, Building Inspector Stevens, Superintendent Muller, Chief Paul, Clerk-Treasurer Brown. **ABSENT:** Recreation Director Guarin.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Reisman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Reisman moved on to the agenda items.

### **BUILDING USE:**

Request from Niagara Pioneer Soccer to use the Board Room on Saturday February 25, and Saturday March 18, 2023 for soccer registration from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Updated insurance has been requested.

Motion to approve the use pending receipt of the insurance (noted by Deputy Mayor Heath that it will be coming Friday) made by Deputy Mayor Heath, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

### **APPROVAL REQUESTS:**

Police Department-new hire- part time Officer Joseph Polermo at a rate of \$21.00/hr.

Motion to approve the new hire for the Police Department was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion was carried.

Barry Entertainment- Village Music Fest, Saturday August 5, 2023, and Arts and Music Fest, Saturday July 22, 2023.

Trustee Stella motioned, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo for discussion. Trustee Stella discussed questions with the proposed route for the July event. Trustee Stella asked if leaving Main Street and Water Street open and moving the vendors to Falkner Park would be a better solution for the Main Street businesses to be open and access to Water Street. Mayor Reisman noted it was not the Villages set-up and the set up on 93 and Main was the request. Deputy Mayor Heath added that this is the first time for the festival in July and the Village can work closely with Barry Entertainment. Trustee Quarantillo asked where the Road was being closed. Superintendent Muller stated from the Barber Shop down. Mayor Reisman stated part of the conditions for the permit is that Mr. Barry check with the neighbors and businesses around the event for any objections or concerns. Mayor Reisman added that Legislator Irene Myers has been contacted to assist with road closure as there are State Roads involved. Trustee Quarantillo asked about Fort Niagara events and noted a concern for traffic. Mayor Reisman noted that traffic will be able to use the North entrance to the Fort and has discussed traffic flow with Chief Paul. Trustee Stella asked about it being set up like the summer Street Dance. Mayor Reisman asked for Trustee Stella's concern on the proposed plan. The access to Water Street and the YYC will be open, traffic to the Fort will be directed. Trustee Stella felt the vendor set up could be better in Falkner Park. Mayor Reisman stated the parking on Hinman will work with the plan of Route 93 and Main Street and the event plans call for it being in proximity to the venue.

Building Inspector Stevens asked if the were steps being taken to avoid the issues from the Music Fest last August. Mayor Reisman noted that there is a checklist, contract, and deposit being taken. Set up will need to be completed 3 days in advance including third party electrical

certification. The deposit will be taken for the July event and can be used for the August event if there are no issues. Trustee Stella noted she was in support of the event but wanted to cover her questions.

With no further discussion, motion to approve the July 22, and August 5, 2023 events for Barry Entertainment was made by Trustee Stevens, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

Authorization for a budget amendment for the REDI project in the amount of \$15,902.25 for payment number 4. Debit H3089 and Credit H1440.4 for 2/2023.

Motion to approve the budget amendment was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor, motion was carried.

Over 65 senior income levels tax exemptions discussion.

Trustee Stevens felt further review was needed on the topic. Mayor Reisman noted this item could be tabled for now so further discussion could take place on the subject, noting it was not impacting the Village one way or another at this time. The Board was in agreement to review the subject further and table this item at this time.

#### **PRESENTATION:**

Jason Kulaszewski-Clean Energy Communities Coordinator

Mayor Reisman introduced Jason Kulaszewski-Clean Energy Communities Coordinator, with the University of Buffalo Regional Institute, School of Architecture and Planning. Mr. Kulaszewski informed the Board about the UBRI (University Buffalo Regional Institute) Resiliency Program. The Clean Energy Communities program support regional sustainability. The goal is to reduce energy consumption and engage residents. The program awards points that will allow a municipality to receive grant funding for clean energy projects. Building/Code Enforcement Officer John Stevens can take courses that will also grant points towards the grants. There are actions that can be taken to accumulate points, the points lead to funding. There are pre-approved projects that will have expedited approval. Mr. Kulaszewski can coordinate with the Village on the path for the endeavor. It was noted that past projects such as the LED Street Lighting project the Village has completed can be submitted to the program. Building Inspector Stevens asked how costs and times the Village DPW has put into projects could be submitted. Mr. Kulaszewski noted an excel workbook tracking figures would work, noting the impact of the project. Deputy Mayor Heath asked who helps with the grant paths. Mr. Kulaszewski advised he is the main contact and will assist. It is possible on some of the projects that graduate and undergraduate students can be connected with the Village on projects. Deputy Mayor Heath asked about the committee that must be in place. Mr. Kulaszewski stated that it is residents, Board member liaison, and he (Mr. Kulaszewski) assists with meetings. Climate Smart website is a good tool as well. Trustee Stevens asked if large private buildings are part of the program. Mr. Kulaszewski noted they would probably not be a fit for the Village. The Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co would also probably function on its own in the program. Mr. Kulaszewski noted that there are

resolutions to pass and templates he can provide to assist with this. Mr. Kulaszewski noted there is a six-month time frame to utilize funds awarded.

### Pathway to funding

Chart a pathway that results in your community becoming a Designated Clean Energy Community.

1. Complete 4 Actions to become a Designated Clean Energy Community.

2. Rack up the points to be awarded grant funding.

3. Complete a Community Campaign to receive limited grant incentives.

4. Complete a Community Campaign to receive limited grant incentives.

### Funding Opportunities

**Point-Based Grants**

Grant	\$50K	\$75K	\$100K
Amount Available	50	20	10
Amount per Region	40	10	4

**Action Grants**

Complete a Community Campaign to receive limited grant incentives.

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### Pre-Approved Projects

NYSEDA has identified numerous project types that meet GHG reduction and payback targets that communities can choose to move forward with and expect expedited approval, including:

- LED Street Lighting Projects
- LED Interior/Exterior Lighting at Facilities
- Installation of Solar
- Electric Vehicle Purchases
- EV Charging Infrastructure Installation
- Energy Efficiency Upgrades

### How can we help?

Help you create a work plan toward becoming a Designated Clean Energy Community, and Certified Climate Smart Community.

Walk you through the details of the programs, gather information and connect you to resources.

Provide hands-on technical support for time-consuming activities.

Tailor model ordinances or tools to the needs of your community.

Support certification actions through Graduate & Undergraduate Projects.

Clean Energy Coordinator  
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### UBRI Resiliency Programs

UBRI Resiliency Programs

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### About Us

The UB Regional Institute (UBRI) is a research center based out of the School of Architecture and Planning at the University at Buffalo.

The Clean Energy Communities program supports regional sustainability – one of UBRI's 4 pillars for growing regional economic development.

Working One Region Forward: The Clean Energy Communities Program

5 BIG IDEAS FOR OUR REGION

UBRI Resiliency Programs

### Take the Climate Smart Communities Pledge

Take the Climate Smart Communities Pledge

Complete actions across 4 Pledge Elements to earn Certification

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### How does a Community become Certified?

- Adopt the CSC pledge
- Complete two mandatory actions:
  - Appoint a Climate Smart Communities coordinator (10 points)
  - Create a Climate Smart Communities task force (10 points)
- Complete at least three priority actions
- Attain at least 120 points across 4 pledge elements

### Why become a Certified CSC?

- Be a climate leader in the Buffalo Niagara region and New York State
- Have tools to help your community address environmental and conservation issues
- Framework and funding to help become more resilient for future generations
- Competitive advantage on grant applications for sustainability programs
- Take advantage of free technical assistance provided by the UB Regional Institute

### Clean Energy Communities: High Impact Actions

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### Clean Energy Communities Update

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The Board was in support of the program. Mayor Reisman thanked Mr. Kulaszewski for the presentation and for coming to the Village.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The next Board meeting will be March 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The next work

session will be March 23, 2023.

So noted.

With no further business, motion to adjourn the Work Session was made at 8:05 p.m. by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor, motion was carried.

Submitted by:

Wendy Brown  
Clerk-Treasurer