# Village of Youngstown



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# Village of Youngstown Board of Trustees Minutes—April 13, 2023

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Reisman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Reisman then read the following public hearing notice.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

By order of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Youngstown, 240 Lockport Street, Youngstown, NY a Public Hearing will be held on Thursday April 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board room for the purpose of hearing all interested parties concerning the following: Tentative budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year commencing June 1, 2023 and ending May 31, 2024. 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. Budget can be viewed at www.youngstownnewyork.us.

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

Mayor Reisman opened the meeting to public comment on the public hearing. With no public comment, Mayor Reisman asked the Board if they had any discussion. With no discussion items Mayor Reisman moved to close the public hearing.

**CLOSE HEARING:** Motion was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella at 7:10 p.m. to close the public hearing. All in favor, motion was carried.

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

Mayor Reisman then opened the meeting to regular public comment. Lisa Leffler of Sister and Brother on Main Street addressed the Board regarding the proposed upcoming event on July 22, 2023 for the music and art festival being planned. Ms. Leffler addressed several questions on the event, noting the event was a Village event. Mayor Reisman advised this is not a Village event, it is a private event. Chris Harden of the Stone Jug, co-sponsor with Ray Barry Entertainment was in attendance and addressed questions Ms. Leffler had. Mayor Reisman noted that Mr. Harden was in attendance to update the Board on some changes with the location of the event later in the meeting.

With no further public comment, Mayor Reisman moved on to departmental reports noting that the monthly reports were submitted and asking for any additional information from any of the department heads.

# **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**POLICE:** New Officer Joseph Palermo as of April 6th & 7th. has been on evening Patrol in the Village. This writer spent an hour each shift with Officer Palermo to ensure and instruct and answer any questions he may have had. Officer Shawn Bosi has been equipped and on Patrol Wednesday April 12, 2023. As before this writer will be with Officer Bosi for the first part of his shift. Patrol vehicle, as of the time of this report the first vehicle is still at FM Communications having equipment installed, police radio and computer systems. The second vehicle will also be equipped upon completion of the first and its return to the Village.

**ENGINEER:** REDI Project – dropped off 60% plans and preparing an amendment Lohr Subdivision – signed subdivision map. Battey Subdivision – on hold pending legal resolution of major vs minor subdivision

**GRANT WRITER:** No report received

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Received 11 bldg. permits in the month of May. Building Inspector Stevens added that he wanted the Board to consider handling of the docks and waterfront area in relations to docking. Building Inspector Stevens discussed the Village looking at transient docking and regulations, enforcement and fees for the Village docking areas. Discussion continued about generally charging by the foot, an on-call type person to collect fees and book dockings. Mayor Reisman noted that this could change insurance requirements for the Village and will need to be taken into consideration Deputy Mayor Heath noted that he will look into solutions for processing fees and bookings.

**ATTORNEY:** 120 Lockport Street: I have prepared and delivered to the Mayor the purchase offer for 120 Lockport Street. Assuming acceptance, a closing is anticipated

around August 1, 2023. Collective bargaining Unit: I have prepared and delivered to the Mayor the Village's demands in response to the Union demands. Anticipated that negotiations will commence shortly. Code Book update: I will schedule a time with Amy to begin our review and suggested updates/ clarifications.

CLERKS OFFICE: Water billing has been issued for April and we are collecting payments. The Property Tax Cap has been filed. The Constitutional Tax limit has been submitted and will be completed once the budget is adopted. We are starting preparations for Village tax bills with Niagara County and have completed the relevy process for this. The budget is ready to be adopted at the Board meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> after the public hearing. We are moving along in the election process and obtaining voting machines. Although this is an uncontested race, obtaining the machines will allow us to learn the process for the election next year when there are two open seats. The treasury filing for the AARPA funding is due for April and I am working on compiling that information for the requires reporting. We continue to work on the contracts that are in process as needed. Work on the STR (short term rental) project continues. Alicia Jettner has been here for two days the last two weeks working on the Archives project. We will continue to work on that project with her.

**RECREATION:** Ordering 4-disc golf holes to complete the course, Stage padding, Wall padding (2 orders for budget reasons). Gym -DPW agreed to sand backboards, epoxy them and re-paint the square on the backboard. Summer-Falkner Calendar is set besides booking the events. Once I confirm all staff and their set days, I can't necessarily book anything. **Budget** Not staffing the snack bar/bathrooms at Vets lets us add more to the programs. Plan would be to have Lewiston fill out a building use form to turn lights on/off for softball games IF they use the field. **Nancy Price** Sponsor letters are out, flyers etc. We have one more meeting before the race.

#### **AGENDA:**

# ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS:

Approval of the Abstract of Audited Vouchers for the period from March 10-April13, 2023 in the amount of \$82,339.59.

General:\$60,762.06
Water: \$ 20,922.17
Sewer: \$ 655.36
H-Cap \$ 0.00
Trust: \$ 0.00
Total \$82,339.59

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

**BUILDING USE**: Mayor Reisman addressed the Board noting that he felt the Board needed to set fees for building use before more approvals could be given. Mayor Reisman noted that non-profits and Municipal programs would be exempt from fees and could be approved. The Board was in agreement with this. Trustee Quarantillo had worked on the project previously and will continue work on it with Deputy Mayor Heath.

Request from Alison Dorries to use the Cora Gushee room on Monday and Wednesdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m. to hold a high fitness class that will be no charge to participants and open to the community. Ms. Dorries was approved October 6, 2022 to hold a high fitness class and was charging participants for the class, therefore, the Village approved her at \$25.00/month fee for use of the room. Ms. Dorries declined acceptance of the approval. Insurance would be provided upon approval.

Request Tabled until fee structure is approved.

Request from Tani Wojcinski to hold an exercise class open to the community at a cost of \$60.00 for the program per participant to be held April 18-May 23, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the gym on Tuesdays. Recreation Director Gruarin has approved the use. Insurance would be provided upon approval.

Request Tabled until fee structure is approved.

Request from Sharon Rugg Town of Porter Recreation to hold story hour in the gym on Tuesdays from June 27-July 25, 2023 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Insurance is on file. Recreation Director Gruarin has approved the use. This is a yearly program that is renewed for this time frame.

Motion to approve the use as noted was made by Deputy Mayor Heath, seconded by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request from the Youngstown Garden Club for their annual plant sale to be held Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the gym. The Garden Club will also use the sidewalk in front of the Village Center. There will be tents placed for food sales and bands as well as crafters. There is a request for tables, chairs, garbage cans, access to restrooms, and placement of approximately five tents. Insurance will be provided upon approval. There is no conflict with Recreation using the gym that day. As this is a Saturday, someone will have to be designated to open, close and monitor the buildings. Requested tables, chairs etc. would be left by the DPW in the gym for the requestor to place as desired.

Motion to approve as noted was made by Trustee Stella, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. Mayor Reisman and Trustee Quarantillo will be the Trustees that open, close and monitor the building. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request from the YYC for tenting on the north Village park area and use of the Village Docks south of the YYC and on the north park property for their Can Am Challenge Regatta on July 28-30, 2023. YYC grounds will be open to the public during the event. This is a yearly event the Village coordinates with the YYC.

As this is a yearly community event the Village works with the YYC on. motion to approve the request was made by Trustee Stevens, second by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request for renewal of the yearly lease agreement and authorization for Mayor Reisman to sign the agreement for the John Calvert room with Julie Perrault. Fee is \$150.00 monthly. Current renewal agreement ends May 31, 2023.

Motion to approve the lease agreement at \$150.00/month was made by Trustee Stella, seconded by Deputy Mayor Heath. Trustee Quarantillo asked if the fee would be changing. The Board felt the \$150.00 was acceptable. All in favor, motion was carried.

# **AUTHORIZATION:**

Authorization for Mayor Reisman to sign the 2023-2024 contract with Independent Health. This is the yearly renewal for health insurance for non-union employees.

Motion to approve the authorization to sign the Independent Health contract was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor, motion was carried.

Authorization for the Clerk-Treasurer to return unpaid water/sewer bills with relevy fees for the quarter ending December 31, 2022 to Niagara County for inclusion to the Village property taxes for 2023-2024 in the amount of \$14,818.91 in water/sewer charges, \$4,350.00 in relevy fees, representing 29 accounts for a total of \$19,168.91.

Motion to approve the return of unpaid water/sewer and relevy fees was made by Trustee Stevens, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request for authorization for Mayor Reisman to sign the annual insurance renewal package with NYMIR.

Motion to approve the authorization for Mayor Reisman to sign the NYMIR renewal was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request for authorization for Mayor Reisman to sign the stay for the permit review on the REDI project for the period of April 17, 2023-July 17, 2023 allowing GHD to complete the necessary design elements.

Mayor Reisman asked Engineer Lannon to provide some additional details on the request. Engineer Lannon explained that the State required more information on the sheet piling for the project as part of the review on the permit. GHD needs to go further with the design to provide the information which may extend past the deadlines for the permit. The stay offers an extension on the dated so as to not have to start the process over. Mayor Reisman asked if this will extend the project into late October. Engineer Lannon felt that the fall start day would still be attainable. Mayor Reisman discussed a calendar request from YYC and RCR for the time frame and to coordinate public meetings with the entities in the Water Street area so everyone is informed. Engineer Lannon confirmed that this is how they normally handle these issues and would agree with the meeting.

Motion to approve the authorization for the stay was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request for authorization for Mayor Reisman to sign the agreement with Niagara County for use of the voting machine.

Motion to approve the authorization for Mayor Reisman to sign the agreement was made by Trustee Stella, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

Request from St. John's Episcopal Church for two handicap parking spots, one on Main Street and one on Main Street and Chestnut Street as they lost parking in the lot adjacent to them. Request for additional temporary handicap parking in front of the Church on Main Street and down Chestnut Street for June 24, 2023 during the Strawberry Festival held at St. John's Episcopal Church with an additional request to place a dumpster on Chestnut Street.

The Board discussed the request on the handicapped parking and agreed to table this portion at this time. Requirements from the State and Village codes need to be reviewed. Building Inspector Stevens added a drop off zone may be a better solution. Codes and requirements will be reviewed prior to a Board decision. The request for placement of a dumpster on Chestnut Street has been handled by Trustee Stevens. Arrangements have been made with the new owner next to the church to utilize the driveway and have the dumpster placed in that area for the event.

Authorization for Mayor Reisman to sign the contract extension with Modern Disposal for the period of June 1, 2023-May 31, 2025.

Motion to approve the authorization to sign the contract extension with Moder Disposal was made by Deputy Mayor Heath, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. It was noted there is a 2% increase each year or whatever the CPI is, whichever is less. All in favor, motion was carried.

# **ITEMS:**

**New Hire:** Officer Shawn Bosi was approved for hire 4/4/23by the Board of Trustees at a rate of \$21.00/hr.

So noted.

# **ACTION FROM PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of budget.**

Motion to adopt the budget as presented was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor, motion was carried.

# **BOARD REPORTS:**

Trustee Stella reported that the Chamber is reviewing their new logo.

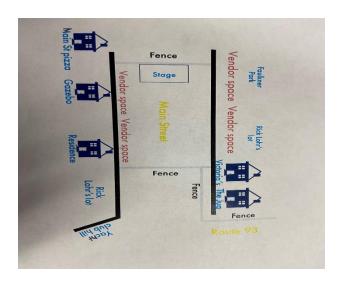
Trustee Stevens reported on the EV charging stations. Trustee Stevens has contacted another contractor for pricing. Frey Electric is working on a quote. National Grid has reviewed the proposed sites for the Village noting that a charging station could be wall mounted under the stairs in the parking lot. This would be less expensive although another electric panel would need to be added to handle the charger. It is not viable for a fast charger in this location. The location on Hinman may be a good fit for a fast charger but does run a risk of being hit by plows. A barrier could be installed in front of the charger if this path is chosen. If Frey electric is chosen as contractor, they will handle the application process on behalf of the Village.

Deputy Mayor Heath reported that the subcommittees on short term rentals have met and are working on making the process easy and that it flows. The group will meet again over the next few weeks. Mayor Reisman asked about the Hometown Hero's program. Deputy Mayor Heath noted that Pete Jeffery from the Town of Porter was looking at the logo, but felt that we should move ahead with sharing the post. The Clerk's Office will get the information shared.

Trustee Quarantillo reported that the Nancy Price 5K run is on May 12, 2023 and the YVFC and our Police Dept are all ready for assistance as well as Fort Niagara. Christine Rath is researching the path of a 501 C (3) group for the Village and we will receive information on how this process is going.

Mayor Reisman introduced Frank Campbell of Destination Niagara, and Niagara River Anglers. Mr. Campbell provided information on the fish stocking program conducted at the Village docks. The Niagara Anglers will not be dredging this Spring due to time constraints, but have a vision of expanding this program to be larger and educational allowing groups to visit the pens in the future. The plan is to promote and tap into the 30 million industry while providing the stocking of fish for the industry.

Mayor Reisman then introduced Chris Harden of the Stone Jug. Mr. Harden will be working with Ray Barry on the July 22<sup>nd</sup> festival. Mr. Harden provided a sketch of the new plan where the event will be held on property adjacent to the Stone Jug and off the roads except for next to the jug on Main Street. The area that would serve alcohol will be fenced off and wrist bands will be utilized. Mr. Harden has advised the entities affected in the area and will provide a letter from the places in the area that will be fenced off noting they are aware of the closure of the road in that area. Any questions can be directed to Chris Harden.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The next Village Board Work Session will be April 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The next Village Board meeting will be May 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The Board will enter into Executive session immediately following the regular meeting for contractual matters.

So noted.

With no further business, motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made at 8:29 p.m. by Trustee Stevens, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

Trustee Quarantillo was recused from the Executive session based on the contracts in discussion. Motion to adjourn the Executive session was made at 9:50 p.m. by Trustee Stella, seconded by Trustee Stevens.

Motion to adjourn the regular session was made at 9:51 p.m. by Trustee Stella, seconded by Trustee Stevens.

Submitted by:

Wendy Brown Clerk-Treasurer