

Village of Youngstown

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Village of Youngstown Board of Trustees Minutes – September 14, 2023

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

CALL TO ORDER: With a quorum present, Mayor Reisman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Reisman noted that on September 1, 2023 Frederick R. Stortecky III was sworn in as Trustee to the Village Board of Trustees. Trustee Stortecky was then designated as Deputy Mayor by Mayor Reisman. Mayor Reisman opened the meeting to public comment.

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

Margaret Nucci of Main Street addressed the Board regarding the flooding in July. Ms. Nucci noted this is the second time her basement backed up and had sewage and oil. Ms. Nucci noted she was not looking for compensation and did install a back flow preventor as suggested by Superintendent Quarantillo but was asking why this is happening. Mayor Reiman noted that Superintendent Quarantillo was working with Lewiston Water Treatment and will be running a camera through the sewer to ensure everything is operating properly.

Duffy Johnston, Supervisor from the Town of Porter addressed the Board. Supervisor Johnston stated the Town of Porter was there to pledge any help to the Village and are here to support as needed. Supervisor Johnston noted he was here to state that the Town does not want to absorb the Village and would like to put those rumors to rest. Supervisor Johnston thanked the DPW for hanging the Hometown Heros banners and noted how successful the program has been.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE: Chief Paul was absent

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: As the summer months come to an end we continue to move forward with our work. We were able to get the hometown hero flags up on the poles where they will remain till November when we take them down. As you can see we started our sidewalk and paving projects. The sidewalks have been poured and look great. We just need to let the concrete cure a little before we can put the dirt around them and finish up.

We milled the roads down and are now waiting on a contractor to come in and pave. The bids are in and I will be contacting the contractors. We had the street sweeper here the past 2 weeks and have been cleaning our streets and D I's from the rain storm to make sure water can flow freely into the storm sewers. We have had some issues with residents on Main St regarding some flooded basements. I have been in contact with all the complainants regarding these issues. I also have been in contact with the sewer plant and will be scheduling them to come down and camera Main St. We have had issues with our Water St lift station, we had spent a lot of time down there trying to get it operational. We did finally get it up and running and can't wait for the new one to be put in. We had a lawn Mower down for over a month until we could get parts and time to fix it, also the same for our one dump truck. This being said we really need to start replacing equipment. I understand this can't be done all at once but please keep it in the back of your minds when I propose items. Our repair cost are through the roof and are only going to get worse! We try to fix most things in house but sometimes there just out of our reach of expertise!

The North dock building has some serious issues. I found on the back side of the building shingles have been blown off. This caused water damage to both sides of the building. I at some point will have to send my guys down to tear out the ceiling where the water damage has occurred. Mold had appeared in these areas. Also where the anglers are they have drilled holes in the building for piping to run through for some kind of drainage. Where the piping is the water runs over the wood siding and is now starting to rot that out as well. The \$300.00 a year or whatever the village charges won't even come close to the repairs the need to be done. We need to take a good hard look at what we charge for rent. If we can't afford to fix anything or at least cover the utilities its time to seriously up the rent or find tenants willing to pay a fair rent! No outside organization should cost the tax payers of this village any money! We did move the concrete blocks that were down there to 707.

I am resubmitting a bid for a new dump truck. I know the last time there was misinformation given to the board. I have corrected the information and resubmitting for your consideration and approval! This truck will replace truck #99 which is the yellow one. We spend thousands upon thousands of dollars each year fixing this truck. This is a high priority purchase!

I did hire a gentlemen named Jason Lons. He will be starting with us on the 25th, and I'm looking to hire one more hopefully starting soon. I thank everyone for their continued support as we transition our department.

ENGINEER: The REDI project is advertised! Thanks for your help. The current schedule is below. Based on the schedule, I might expect the contractor to mobilize around mid-November.

- Advertise for bids ~~9/1/2023~~ 9/8/2023
- Open bids ~~9/22/2023~~ 9/29/2023
- Award contract 10/12/2023
- Notice to proceed 11/1/2023
- Construction complete 4/30/2024

BUILDING INSPECTOR: I had 7 permit applications. 1 complaint / resolved. Building Inspector Stevens addressed the Board asking for an update on the Unified Solar Permit. Attorney Caserta will finish the review and get with Building Inspector Stevens. Building Inspector Stevens noted this process allows gathering of information on Solar permits and requires the manufactures to take care of disposal. Building Inspector Stevens address the Board on fines and enforcement. Attorney Caserta clarified that the Town of Porter Court would have to state the fine amount and enforce the fine after the Village has followed the notification/code enforcement portion.

ATTORNEY: Attorney Caserta provided updates to the Board regarding ongoing items.

CLERKS OFFICE: We have been working with our new audit team, providing information for the filing of the annual update document and audit. We wrapped up the Labor Day Parade coordination. Working on various outstanding issues as reported with the Attorney report. Amy and I will be at NYCOM training the week of 9/18-9/22, Alex will be handling the office. The fines for 635 Second Street have been resolved. We have been working with the Engineer on the REDI grant bid publication and process as well. The RFP for the Cold Storage is out and now due and we are handling that process.

RECREATION: Disc Golf: Spoke with Greg he said it is on his list, we both agreed as long as it is done before Spring, he was hoping for later this season still. Summer Programs are complete. They were all successful and the staff did an outstanding job. The plan is to start indoor late September versus early September and go to end of March versus first week of March. We will start with open gym and lead into a program as we have the past few years. Toddler Time will continue year-round. I spoke with Dave with Perfect Seal, he said he has been extremely busy but we are on his list still....The commission will start prepping for Halloween and Christmas events.

AGENDA:

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS:

Approval of the Abstract of Audited Vouchers for the period from August 11- September 14, 2023 in the amount of \$77,570.17.

General:	\$71,810.89
Water:	\$ 624.99
Sewer:	\$ 367.99
H Capital:	\$ 4,766.30
Trust:	\$ 0.00
Total	\$77,570.17

Motion to approve the abstract of audited voucher was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor, motion was carried.

ITEMS:

Letter of resignation received from Fred Braun from the Planning Board.

So noted.

Appointment of Dale Halverson to the Planning Board.

Motion to appoint Dale Halverson was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion was carried.

Appointment of Jennifer Dick as alternate member of Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion to appoint Jennifer Dick as alternate member of the Zoning Board was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion was carried.

Approval Jason Lons new hire for DPW Seasonal position \$15.75/hr.

Motion to approval Jason Lons for seasonal DPW position was made by Trustee Stella, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

BUILDING USE REQUEST:

Request from Lewiston Porter Youth Football, practice nights with lights, Monday through Thursday September 11-October 27, 2023 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Insurance is on file.

Motion to approve the use was made by Trustee Stella, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. Mayor Reisman asked who will be turning the lights on/off. Recreation Director Guarin noted that Nicole Short from the Lew-Port Youth Football organization will be doing that and if she cannot Recreation Director Guarin will handle it. All in favor, motion was carried.

BOARD CONSIDERATION ON THE FOLLOWING:

Tuesday October 31, 2023 set trick or treat hours 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Motion to approve the hours as noted was made by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor, motion was carried.

RESOLUTION: Benchmarking resolution for the energy initiative will be on the work session agenda. Please review the resolution prior to the meeting. Jason Kulaszewski from UB can attend the meeting if needed.

Mayor Reisman noted that this process will allow the Village to gain points along with the EV charger program for the grant program on energy. Mayor Reisman noted that Jason Kulaszeski will be in attendance at the September 28 work session to review the resolution process. The Board will continue to review the resolution prior to the meeting.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

RFP Cold Storage

Mayor Reisman noted that any RFP's received within the required time frame will be officially notified by the Village Clerk. Any companies that submitted and RFP will be invited to the September 28, 2023 work session to address the Board with their proposal. Mayor Reisman noted the public was welcome to attend.

BOARD REPORTS:

Trustee Stella reported that the Chamber has cancelled the business blender on October 12th. There will be an awards dinner on 11/9. There are five new members to the Chamber and the Jazz fest was a success. The Chamber is looking at a risk management program to determine a path forward on a succession plan for Jennifer Pauly. The Chamber is now Upward Niagara Chamber.

Trustee Stevens reported that the benchmarking resolution will be handled at the September 28th work session meeting. Trustee Stevens attended a webinar on September 13th on Board governance and best practices. The fundraiser for the library, Dessert in the Stacks is in planning process. Trustee Stevens noted that on Saturday she will participate in the Upward Niagara Chamber of Commerce Lewiston Bike Ride in conjunction with the Niagara Greenway. The 9.2-mile bike ride will showcase the lower Niagara Shoreline Trail. All are welcome to participate. Information is posted on the Village Facebook page and posted at the Village Hall.

Deputy Mayor Stortecky introduced himself noting he was sworn in on September 1st. Deputy Mayor Stortecky noted that he has been a Village resident for two years, residing in the Town previously. Deputy Mayor Stortecky stated he is excited and here to serve the residents of the Village. Deputy Mayor Stortecky noted his business is located in the Village and looks forward to being a part of the Board.

Mayor Reisman thanked everyone that helped with the parade, Superintendent Quarantillo and his work and Mark Fox for loaning equipment, it was appreciated. There were many kids in attendance. The DPW replaced 106 sidewalk blocks as part of the vision plan. There are three roads that are waiting on paving as the paving machine was vandalized, the residents in the area have been notified.

Trustee Quarantillo noted the Recreation meeting will be September 18. Plans are underway for the Halloween party which will probably be October 28th at 11:00 a.m. There are plans underway for the splash pad to be painted as well.

Clerk-Treasurer Brown noted to the Board she and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Beaudreau will be at NYCOM training the week of September 18-25th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Village Board work session meeting will be September 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The next Village Board meeting will be October 12, 2023.

So noted.

With no further business, motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made at 7:30 p.m. by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Wendy Brown
Clerk-Treasurer