



INCORPORATED:
APRIL 18, 1854

Village of Youngstown

VILLAGE CENTER • 240 LOCKPORT STREET
P. O. BOX 168
YOUNGSTOWN, NEW YORK 14174-0168

TELEPHONE:
(716) 745-7721
FAX:
(716) 745-3400

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

PRESENT: Mayor Reisman, Deputy Mayor Stortecky, Trustee Quarantillo, Trustee Stella, Trustee Stevens, Attorney Caserta, Engineer Lannon, Superintendent Quarantillo, Recreation Director Gruarin, Clerk-Treasurer Brown. **ABSENT:** Chief Paul (called away on a call), Building Inspector Stevens.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Youngstown, 240 Lockport Street, Youngstown, NY will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday December 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of hearing all interested parties concerning a sewer rate increase of .05 cents per 1,000 gallons effective January 1, 2024. The proposed increase is a pass-through increase from Lewiston Water Pollution Control Treatment. Sewer rates will increase from \$7.03/1,000 gallons to \$7.08/1,000 gallons.

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

Mayor Reisman asked for any public comment on the public hearing. With no public comment, Mayor Reisman asked the Board for any discussion.

BOARD DISCUSSION: None

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:

With no further discussion, Trustee Quarantillo made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:02 p.m., seconded by Deputy Mayor Stortecky. All in favor, motion was carried.

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

Mayor Reisman called for any public comment. With no public comment, Mayor Reisman moved on to departmental reports.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE: Over the course of the past two months and hundreds of pages documents this writer, with the assistance of the Clerk's Office, Wendy, Amy and Alex along with contacts at the Niagara Falls Police Department and DCJS. Licensing for the Police Department has been renewed. 02. Officers have been watchful during duty shifts with attention to speeding vehicles and security in and around the parks. The Officers have been out on patrol during the day, afternoon and nights. 03. Request to hire an additional Patrol Officer. Currently working on candidates.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: November activities as follows. We have continued on with leaf pickup and will run a couple weeks into December. We will have one more brush pickup after we complete the leaves. I will ask the Clerk's office to put in on the sign and Facebook page when were ready. We have prepared are dump trucks for the winter season of plowing and salting. All plow markers have been put out! As you can see, we put up all the Christmas decorations may I suggest we put them up in the middle of November instead of the beginning of December! As the weather has been changing the stairs at the North and South Docks become slick due to the leaves and the constant rain so we closed them for the winter months. We spent some time up in the Cora Gushee room cleaning it out and reorganizing it "LOOKS GREAT"! It has been a very busy month for home inspections along with continuing our weekly activities. We had a complaint on Chestnut St regarding a sewer issue. We spent half a day cleaning and cameraing the lines. We found that the house lateral had many root balls in the line caused by a Village tree. The Lewiston water treatment plant came down and assisted us with cutting out the roots with their equipment thus saving the Village about \$500.00 in cost to have the line professionally cleaned out. They have been a great asset to our department! Lastly the Water St project has commenced! Their team has been working diligently on the sanitary and storm sewer. I'm in contact with them daily so if there are any questions, please let me know.

ENGINEER: For the REDI Project: Sanitary sewer pipe and manholes have been installed. Storm sewer pipe and catch basins are scheduled for this week. Coordinated with National Fuel Some concrete gutter curb has been removed. Addressing a property line issue from a resident at 535 Main Street. I am waiting on a grant application to be sent to me for review

BUILDING INSPECTOR: No report

ATTORNEY: No report

CLERKS OFFICE: We are working on the wrap up of the Archives grant. We have the shelving ordered for the Mayors room and are in the process of ordering the fire proof cabinets. Shredding has been completed. All steps will be completed for 12/31 which is

the end of the grant process. Jay and his grant writing group will submit the paperwork as required. Your November financial reports have been sent to departments heads and Trustees. The REDI project is moving forward and contracts have been signed and sent as required. Christmas in the Village activities are all scheduled and ready for 12/9. The Christmas basket program is all scheduled. We do still need someone for 12/16 to open and close the gym on distribution day. We are gearing up for the new calendar year which impacts payroll and various reporting. We are now gold certified with NYS Retirement and continue to work with them on reporting. John Stevens has received a copy of an updated code book as per his request. There is always a copy available in the office if anyone needs to refer to it.

RECREATION: Indoor: The basketball program wraps up next Wednesday. It is also the last week of rec due to the Christmas in the village and a couple week break. We will re-open after the new year with open gym, family night and go into floor hockey. Christmas Party, The Rec will have Santa read his story and then greet the children. We have (3) crafts, NEW Coloring contest for kids and adults. We are also collecting NEW (gloves, socks, hats and scarves) to donate to the Niagara University Nurses Program who is collecting for “Heart love and soul” in Niagara Falls. Santa Mailbox out front for adults to put the kids Christmas list in.

Mayor Reisman asked for any additions to the reports received. Engineer Lannon noted he would like to coordinate a meeting for 12/21 at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Reisman will confirm this with Engineer Lannon.

AGENDA:

ABSTRACT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS:

Approval of the Abstract of Audited Vouchers for the period from November 10-December 14, 2023 in the amount of \$161,279.65.

General:	\$124,485.26
Water:	\$ 1,390.07
Sewer:	\$ 35,404.32
H Capital:	\$ 0.00
Trust:	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total	\$161,279.65

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

BOARD CONSIDERATION ON THE FOLLOWING:

CSS, Inc-Update:

Dave Pawlik addressed the Board with an update on 701 Nancy Price Drive. Mr. Pawlik noted that the studies have proved favorable to move forward with the project ahead of schedule. Mr. Pawlik would like to work with Planning and Zoning to ensure the project is in line with codes and requirements. If things move along, CSS would take ownership of the property mid-summer. The project would include 28 condo units in 7 buildings with 4 condos per building at 1600-1700 sq ft per unit. Mr. Pawlik would like to proceed with digging three test pits. Attorney Caserta advised Mr. Pawlik to send a contingent contract to the Village for review. The project would begin with two buildings and 8 units with an HOA.

Unified Solar permit fees and process:

The Board discussed permit fees and agreed to a \$100.00 fee for this permit. Jason Kulaszewski from UB noted that the points window on adopting the permit has expired, but the permit is still beneficial as it covers recycling laws and will provide the county with data. The Board has tabled the permit for now and Clerk-Treasurer Brown will address the areas on the permit that need information and pass to the Board for review and adoption at a future meeting.

Action on the Public Hearing for sewer rate increase of .05 cents/thousand gallons.

Motion to approve the rate increase was made by Trustee Stevens, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

Approval of a budget journal adjustment to record REDI payment #6 \$4,766.30 from August.

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

Request for approval for Paul Beatty Jr to hold the 3rd annual Ontario House (Stone Jug) 5K race on Saturday February 3, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. with the same course as last year. The event would benefit the Youngstown Free Library. Assistance is being requested from Fire Police/and or Village Police at key intersection along the route. Insurance has been received.

Motion to approve the race for February 3, 2024 was made by Trustee Stella, seconded by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion was carried.

penalties. There are three levels of rebates available. This company does not install solar, this is solar that is available for purchase. Manager of the project would be Mayor Reisman.

Motion to approve acceptance of Solar Simplified was made by Trustee Stella, seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor, motion was carried.

ITEMS:

Christine Rath was designated as a grantee volunteer grant writer by Mayor Reisman on 11/29/2023. Ms. Rath will be working on researching grant opportunities for the Village.

Christine Rath gave a slideshow presentation of plans through Friends of Youngstown for Veterans Park. There is a 5-year plan themed Let's get moving Youngstown. There are plans for renovating ballfields, moving the dog park, sidewalks, expanded golf frisbee course, pickleball, and tennis. Phase 2 would include a walking path and renovation of the train station for partial use by the DPW and museum type venue. The plan includes a \$100,000 land acquisition by the Village and approximately \$90,900 in cash as 20% match to the grant being applied for. Mayor Reisman asked about some other options geared to shrinking the amount. Ms. Rath noted fundraising would also come into play and can review the plan for some alternative options. Ms. Rath will continue to work on the plan. The Board would need to approve application of the grant and support of the 20% match that would be due.

Deputy Mayor Stortecky was designated liaison for the Friends of Youngstown group by Mayor Reisman November 1, 2023.

So noted.

The (annual) 2024 Sewer use agreement with the Town of Lewiston Water Pollution Control Center has been received and the Board authorized signature of the contract. The contract has been signed by Mayor Reisman and returned to Town of Lewiston Water Treatment.

So noted.

BOARD REPORTS:

Trustee Stella reported that the Upward Niagara Chamber is moving forward with their new Board. The annual Christmas breakfast was held. The YBPA will be having their meeting in January and are looking for candidates for President and Secretary.

Trustee Stevens reported that the EV charging station project continues. Trustee Stevens noted that Christmas in the Village turn out was great. Trustee Stevens noted she spoke to some of the vendors about the \$25.00 fee and they felt it was reasonable.

Deputy Mayor Stortecky thanked Christine Rath and Friends of Youngstown for her expertise and Shawn Mackenzie for his legal assistance and filing the 501 C 3 application pro bono. It was noted the Irene Myers is also involved with looking for funding.

Trustee Quarantillo reported that the Recreation Christmas events went well and Santa arriving on the new ambulance was a success. It was noted Trustee Quarantillo will be the hazard/emergency management liaison. The Solar Eclipse for 4/8/24 is being worked on through Niagara County and we will participate in the calls.

Clerk-Treasurer Brown noted the Archives project is wrapping up. Shelving should be here in January and the cabinets have been delivered. The DPW was thanked for their help in moving the cabinets in when they were delivered.

Mayor Reisman reported that Trustee Quarantillo will be the Emergency Preparedness liaison for the Village. Trustee Stella will be the neighborhood watch liaison.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Village Board meeting will be January 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The next work session will be January 25, 2024 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 and enter into Executive session was made at 8:30 p.m. by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion was carried.

Motion to adjourn Executive session and enter into regular session was made at 9:38 p.m. by trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Stortecky.

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made at 9:39 p.n. by Trustee Quarantillo, seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor. Motion was carried.

Submitted by:

Wendy Brown
Clerk-Treasurer