

## VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

Deputy Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Trustees Adamson and VanDeusen, Attorney Caserta, Police Chief Salada, DPW Superintendent Muller, Grant Writer Bernie Rotella and several interested residents. Mayor Riordan and Trustee Suito were absent.

Deputy Mayor Reynolds asked for public comment. Norman Swann of Brampton asked about the Cold Storage building. Deputy Mayor Reynolds stated the Village has advertised for RFP's with a submittal date of Friday, September 9, 2011. To date, no submittals have come in. Mr. Swann stated his concerns for safety at the site and was assured by the Deputy Mayor that the Village has taken steps to secure the area. Mr. Swann then stated his concerns that the site is a burden to the Village taxpayers, cited the owners should be responsible for expenses. Attorney Caserta advised that the multiple owners walked away from the property and can not be found. Trustee Adamson stated the Village would demolish the building as Mr. Swann eluded but the Village can not afford the \$150,000. expense. Deputy Mayor Reynolds stated that hindsight is always 20/20 and the Village took ownership in an attempt to get it back on the tax rolls. Mr. Swann stated that he has stopped buying local farmer's produce because they left the Village with their mess.

Gretchen Duling of Main St. thanked the Board for their support of the Peace Garden and announced a presentation will be held on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. in conjunction with the garden. In the event of rain, the picnic shelter at Falkner Park will be used. Many positive comments have been received and dedication bricks may still be purchased through December 31, 2011.

Donna Huggins of Main St. commented on the lovely picnic and Peace Garden dedication. Postcards depicting the painted character hydrants were sold with proceeds to cover the cost to repaint them next year. Mrs. Huggins updated the Board on the work former resident Skeeter Tower is doing in her new community, borrowing event ideas from this area and sharing them there.

Tim Lockhart, former Lewiston Water Pollution Control Supervisor advised the Board that he has completed the annual stormwater report for the period of March 9, 2010-March 10, 2011. There are 12 outfalls of record in the Village to be inspected. 20% of them are inspected annually. Approximately 25 miles of roads are cleaned as well as catch basins. A copy will be submitted to Albany.

Karen Noonan of Main St. asked the Board to consider extending the watering system to the Peace Garden as it takes scheduled volunteers one hour to complete the task. She also asked that the watering system be put at Constitution Park.

Building Inspector Choboy was absent but submitted his monthly report for August. Nine permits were completed for work valued at \$69,000. and \$440. in fees collected.

Police Chief Salada submitted his August report. 301 patrol hours were worked, 1,248 patrol miles logged, 13 Village calls, 8 Town of Porter calls, 9 calls outside the Village, 10 UTT's issued, 6 parking tickets issued and no arrests were made.

DPW Superintendent Muller submitted his report for August. 2 hours of overtime was worked and 59.56 tons of garbage collected.

Attorney Caserta will address items as they come up throughout the meeting.

The minutes of the August 11, 2011 Board meeting were approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Utility taxes received from AT&T-\$5.06, Vonage-\$7.44, Direct Energy-\$2.29 and TWC Digital Phone-\$86.58. Sales Tax distribution for July-\$28,915.27, up \$549.19 from the same time period last year. So noted.
2. Water gallonage report for August 2011, consumption down 33,892 gallons per day from the same period last year. So noted.
3. First annual WNY Motorized Parade for 9/11 will be held on Sunday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. beginning at the Fashion Outlet Mall, through Lewiston and making its way through Youngstown via River Rd., through Wilson, Olcott, Lockport, Sanborn and end at Gratwick Park. People along the route are encouraged to line the streets waving American flags. To participate in the Police escorted parade, contact the Town of Niagara at 444-2810. So noted.

## **AGENDA**

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending August 31, 2011-General Fund-\$49,140.94, Water Fund-\$2,624.06, Sewer Fund-\$2,060.65 and Trust Agency Fund-\$1,703.98 was approved by motion of Trustee VanDeusen, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
2. Trustee Adamson motioned to authorize the expenditure of \$2,000.00 as down payment for repairs to various Village Hall doors. Total cost for labor and materials should be approximately \$4,250-\$4,400 with the work to be done by Frank Miller Construction & Maintenance. The motion was seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried. Work is expected to begin September 19, 2011.
3. Authorization for Deputy Mayor to sign the annual lease agreement with RCR Yachts for winter boat storage at the North Dock was made by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.

Norman Swann questioned what RCR charges their customers for boat storage in comparison to what the Village receives in the lease agreement. He then voiced his concerns regarding the annual regatta and putting security costs on the taxpayers.

The Board agreed to rescind their vote authorizing the signing of the lease agreement until further review.

4. Written complaint received in Village Office for unkempt vacant property on Main St. Broken windows, debris and fallen branches are listed in complaint. Deputy Mayor Reynolds verified that the complaint has been turned over to Building Inspector Choboy.
5. Village Code lacks penalty for soliciting violators as per Chief Salada's meeting with Town of Porter Justice. Attorney Caserta stated there is no penalty for soliciting violators. The Village will need to pass a local law to add wording pertaining to penalties. Attorney Caserta will prepare the local law for review and public hearing.
6. Resignation received from Planning Board alternate Karl Bykowski effective 9/2/11. Deputy Mayor Reynolds stated the Board regretfully accepts Mr. Bykowski's resignation and asked the Clerk to send a letter of thanks for his service.

7. Authorization for Deputy Mayor to sign consulting agreement with CEA for completion of the MS4 Annual Report at a cost of \$4,000. was made by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.
8. Authorization for Deputy Mayor to sign the WNY Stormwater Coalition Cooperating MS4 Letter of Commitment was made by motion of Trustee VanDeusen, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
9. NYSDEC letter announcing our application for the Waste Reduction Grant is on a wait list due to greater demand than funds available. We will be notified when funding becomes available again. So noted.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was discussed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

### **REPORTS**

Trustee Adamson reported that youth football will be practicing in Vets Park soon and recreation programs will begin soon. He also reported that in an effort to save money, stone will not be spread on the road behind the Vets Park tennis courts. Instead, millings will be used.

Grant writer Bernie Rotella reported that he met yesterday with the DOT, Engineer Gallucci and Building Inspector Choboy regarding a ferry service grant. A Tiger grant could be applied for to do infrastructure work. Norman Swann spoke up to say that grants come from taxpayer's dollars.

Trustee Adamson stated that he and Building Inspector Choboy had made a brief tour of the Village and found cars parked on the sidewalk at the Main St. Gas & Grill. They made recommendations to leave parking spots for their customs as other merchants do. Concerns of people having to walk in the street because of the blocked sidewalk were discussed. If parking offenses continue, Village code will be enforced. Trustee Adamson asked to have the Police Chief warn the pizzeria and then ticket offenders. Deputy Mayor Reynolds asked Chief Salada to stop at the business to alert them of these safety concerns and violations. Trustee Adamson also advised the business owner that garage cannot be placed at curbside early and that the Village has a cardboard dumpster which he could use. This would prevent large garbage tipping costs for cardboard that gets wet in rain or snow. Norman Swann stated the Village Code does not allow garbage to be placed curbside until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday night.

Trustee VanDeusen stated that she would like to publically thank the Peace Garden committee for the beautiful garden and for the very organized dedication ceremony.

With no further business, Trustee Adamson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried. The meeting ended at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon  
Clerk Treasurer