

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 26, 2012

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Deputy Mayor Adamson, Trustees Hanson, Suitor and VanDeusen, Attorney Caserta, Police Sergeant Schuey and four interested residents.

The Mayor asked for public comment. Howard Krieger of Lockport St. asked about the drainage on his property. He brought a drainage map obtained from Niagara County of his property and stated there is standing water. He and the Board reviewed the map and Trustee Hanson pointed out the easement area on the Krieger property. A discussion took place regarding the problem, drainage pipes, and elevations and agreed to visit the property in the spring.

Norman Swann of Brampton Rd. reported that in August / September, he had discussed his concerns with former Mayor Riordan of the DPW negotiations, specifically wages and health care. Trustee Hanson referenced the partial payment of health insurance by new hires established during Mr. Swann's tenure as Mayor and which is still in effect. Mr. Swann went on to say, the DPW does not pave or do sidewalks as they now contract the work out. Mr. Swann stated the DPW workers are "glorified grass cutters" and that people on the street probably don't know that three DPW workers are in a union. He went on to ask how many grievances has the Village had from them which was answered accordingly and then advised the Board that residents witness one of the DPW crew members which he then named, did not stop at a stop sign while snow plowing on the previous Friday. Mr. Swann discussed how a tragic accident could have occurred had a vehicle been in the plow's path. He continued by stating a new Village truck was hit by the Village back hoe driven by a DPW crew member. Trustee VanDeusen asked if Mr. Swann was in a union before he retired at which time he stated he was and knew about unions. He questioned why three DPW crew members joined a union stating they are pricing themselves out of jobs. Mr. Swann referenced work throughout the Village including when the sewers were last cleaned and what happens when there is a call-in. Attorney Caserta stated there is a 2 hour minimum pay for call-ins. Mr. Swann asked if the DPW crew would have jobs if the Village was abolished at which time Attorney Caserta described possibilities if this were to happen. Mr. Swann advised the Board that he has petitions on his desk at home for such an event.

Building Inspector Choboy was absent and his monthly report was submitted at the January 12th Board meeting.

Police Sergeant Schuey was present and stated the Police monthly report had been submitted by Chief Salada.

DPW Superintendent Muller was absent. His report had also been submitted at the January 12th Board meeting.

Attorney Caserta stated he would address items as they came up during the meeting.

The minutes of the January 12, 2012 meeting were approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Adamson, seconded by Trustee Hanson and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Utilities received – Accent Energy - \$12.37, ACN Communications - \$5.09, TWC Digital Phone - \$93.15, AT&T - \$6.86, IDT Telecom - \$5.91, Matrix Telecom –

\$10.26, Vonage - \$6.95 and Sales Tax for December 2011 - \$46,603.41, up \$7,921.61 from the same time period last year. So noted.

2. Received reimbursement of \$530.00 from Niagara County for damage to electrical service when their machinery hit wires. So noted.

AGENDA

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending January 26, 2012 – General Fund - \$74,694.55, Water Fund - \$23,050.71 and Sewer Fund - \$38,944.32 were approved by motion of Trustee Sutor, seconded by Trustee Hanson and carried.
2. Authorization for Mayor to sign contract with Niagara County Office for the Aging for financial assistance with the senior van service was approved by motion of Trustee VanDeusen, seconded by Trustee Sutor and carried.
1. A request to hold an Accident Prevention Workshop in the Cora Gushee Room on Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. was approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Adamson, seconded by Trustee Hanson and carried. Empire Safety sponsors the class and upon completion, attendees receive a 10% discount on their auto insurance for three years.
2. Authorization for the Clerk to transfer \$22,020.66 from the Water fund owed to the Sewer fund for water/sewer bill collections during the period of 12/30/11-1/25/12 was approved by motion of Trustee Hanson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.

OLD BUSINESS No old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS No new business was discussed.

REPORTS

Trustee VanDeusen reported she had attended the LOOW RAB meeting on Tuesday night. The group has concerns that the Army Corp. of Engineers will make a permanent waste site at the current site while the LOOW RAB group wants mediation and removal in the area.

Trustee Hanson reported the next Heritage meeting will be hosted by the Village of Youngstown on the last Wednesday in February in the Cora Gushee Room. The Village will provide coffee and donuts.

Trustee Sutor stated New York State has new open meeting laws which will take effect on February 1, 2012 and which the Village is in compliance with today. Agendas will now be posted on the Village website as stated in the aforementioned law. Mayor Reynolds stated the Village is ahead of the game in this regard.

Deputy Mayor Adamson reported on the outdoor electronic sign for the Village Hall. He also reported on signage at the Parkway directing traffic into the Village and the Fort which is being encouraged by the Youngstown Business Association. The Deputy Mayor also reported that the Nancy Price 5K Race will be held May 12, 2012 and will have a route change this year. Runners will go through the Fort Niagara Park which will require a permit to be obtained by the Village.

The Black Pearl representative, Amanda Alexander will be attending the February 9th meeting. Deputy Mayor Adamson stated plans to bring the boat to Youngstown will be discussed and possible distribution of coupon packets is being considered by the Youngstown Business

Association to encourage shopping and dining at local establishments.

Before adjourning, Norman Swann asked if the DPW crew uses Village cell phones for personal use. Mayor Reynolds answered, "no". Mr. Swann also stated that brush remnants were left on streets after Christmas trees were picked up showing no pride in the work the DPW crew is doing. Deputy Mayor Adamson stated he would speak to Superintendent Muller regarding the matter.

Mayor Reynolds reminded everyone of the next Board meeting on Thursday, February 9th. With no further business, Trustee VanDeusen motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Suitor and carried. The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.