

## VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – AUGUST 9, 2012

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Deputy Mayor Sutor, Trustees Adamson, Lockhart and VanDeusen, Attorney Caserta, Police Chief Salada, Building Inspector Stevens and six residents.

The Mayor then asked for public comment. Jack Bush of Third St. asked about the dock. Mayor Reynolds stated things are progressing and a decision on engineering firms will be made soon. He also reported Building Inspector Stevens has inspected the area and has some ideas.

Amy Vanone of Lake St. introduced herself and her neighbor, Tracy Lloyd stating she had written a letter to the Board last summer regarding a resident at 90 Lake St. who leaves food such as cat food and peanuts out for animals which has attracted skunks, squirrels and other wildlife. Mrs. Vanone said Q & D Management sent letters to the complex residents but, the feeding continues. Mrs. Lloyd stated animals come to the ditch between the apartment complex and the Vanone property and feed, leaving a mess. Both ladies are frustrated that this continues to be a problem. Trustee Adamson stated that he and former building inspector, Bill Choboy visited the offender and thought the problem had stopped since nothing further had been reported. Mrs. Vanone stated she and other home owners have financially spent much to improve their property and she too is frustrated by the unsanitary mess on her property. Friends with children having peanut allergies can not visit her home and play in the yard due to the peanut shells which have even been found in her vehicle. She stated that she has talked to Q & D Management and the Village Board and asked what she should do now.

Attorney Caserta checked his Village Code book and stated the problem violates property maintenance laws. Trustee VanDeusen would like to see if the group Wild Kritters could speak to the offender to advise her against such feedings.

Mrs. Lloyd stated this matter is past the warning stage and without consequence to the offender, this will continue. When asked how to proceed if the feeding continues, Trustee VanDeusen advised they call her as she lives nearby and she will then pass the information on to the rest of the Board

Building Inspector Stevens submitted his monthly report for July. Ten permits were completed for work valued at \$27,400.00 and \$275.00 in fees collected. He also reported several attempts to contact Mr. Sahota regarding his property where an open foundation poses safety hazards. Attorney Caserta stated the foundation could be filled in if there is no response from the owner.

Police Chief Salada submitted his July report. 230 patrol hours were worked, 1,175 patrol miles logged, 38 Village calls, 18 Town of Porter calls, 20 calls outside the Village, 24 UTT's issued, 19 parking tickets issued, and 9 arrests made.

DPW Superintendent Muller was absent but submitted his report. 6.5 overtime hours were worked during July.

Attorney Caserta advised the Board that approximately five years ago he had drafted a questionnaire and advised it would be a good practice to have members of any Board complete the form annually. Mr. Caserta will review the form and then pass it on to the Mayor and Trustees for their input. He also reported that he and Trustee Lockhart will be attending a NYCOM seminar next week which will cover subjects such as dealing with neglected and abandoned properties, maintenance codes and much more. Attorney Caserta stated he has talked to Lou Giardino of CEA International regarding the Cold Storage proposed project and is expecting a response to pertinent issues regarding the same. Attorney Caserta suggested title should not be given until after the building is removed to protect the Village's interest. The SEQR process must be followed also. Mr. Caserta assured Mr. Giardino that the Board wants this project to happen. Trustee Lockhart recalled a one year time frame discussed during the proposed project presentation.

The minutes of the July 12, 2012 meeting were approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Suitor, seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Utility taxes received from Verizon-\$980.01, Accent Energy-\$8.92, Granite Telecom-\$1.30, TWC Digital-\$90.88, IDT Corp.-\$8.26, AT&T-\$2.87 and Vonage-\$6.78. Sales Tax received for June-\$41,214.49, down \$2,077.95 from same period last year. So noted.
2. Niagara County Water District gallonage report for June 29, 2012-July 31, 2012-consumption down 85,045 gallons per day for the same period last year. So noted.
3. Community Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 11, 2012 from 12:00-4:00 p.m. at Falkner Park. Residents are asked to bring a dish to pass with the Village providing hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks. Activities for all ages. A children's fishing derby will be held prior to the picnic from 8:00 a.m. – noon. So noted.

### **AGENDA**

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending July 31, 2012-General Fund-\$80,782.56, Water Fund-\$4,300.30, Sewer Fund-\$527.74 and Trust Agency-\$1,000.00 and for period ending August 9, 2012-General Fund-\$18,161.86, Water Fund-\$18.45, Sewer Fund-\$56,213.79 and Trust Agency-\$780.00 were approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee VanDeusen and carried.
2. Request from the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co. to use Veteran's Park from 8/27-9/7/12, use Recreation Office 9/1-9/3/12, permission to close portions of Third St. from Church to Elliott and Elliott from Second to Third St. from 8/31-9/3/12, permission to restrict parking at various times along certain portions of Third, Second, Elliott, Church and Main Sts. to improve safety and traffic patterns, permission to use power drops near Recreation building and tennis courts, permission to use fire hydrants at Elliott and Third Sts. to supply potable water to stands and authorization for the Mayor to sign the Fire Co.'s application for beer and wine permits was approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Suitor, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.

Mayor Reynolds reported he and Chief Salada met with Campbell St. residents at their request to discuss cars parking on both sides of their street during the Labor Day parade. In the event of an emergency, an emergency vehicle could not get down the street. The Mayor stated Campbell St. will be blocked off and parking will be limited to one side only.

3. Request from resident to have adjustment to water bill after inside and outside meters were found to be out of sync when final water reading was done at moving. A discussion took place regarding the inside meter and outside readers and the homeowner's responsibility to compare the two readings to catch similar problems. Trustee Lockhart stated any relief given would fall on Village residents subsidizing the adjustment. He then motioned to deny the bill adjustment, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
4. Water shut off date for unpaid water bills for quarter ending June 30, 2012 set for Wednesday, September 5, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Suitor and carried.
5. Inquiries have been made as to housing chickens for egg use (no roosters) in the Village as well as a "keep and release" program to nurse falcons back to health. Mayor Reynolds suggested the matter be put on the September 12, 2012 meeting agenda so to gather more information and that an interested resident may do a presentation. The Mayor stated more information is needed before a decision can be made about the falcon program.

6. Board meetings will return to two meetings per month, on the second and fourth Thursdays starting September 13, 2012 unless otherwise posted. The U.S. Border Patrol is scheduled to give a short presentation that night. So noted.
7. Request from Library to address air conditioning in the upstairs meeting room. Further information is needed before a plan of action can be taken. Superintendent Muller and/or a heating and cooling professional will be consulted. This matter will be on the September agenda.
8. Review of building permit fee schedule for large construction projects. Attorney Caserta clarified that the Board sets the fee schedule. The Board will review schedules of other municipalities and discuss them at the September meeting.
9. Resolution in opposition of the International Joint Commission's proposed plan to release control of Lake Ontario water levels. After a discussion took place regarding sample resolutions, the Board chose to fashion the Village's resolution after the Town of Newfane's with some modifications.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business discussed

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business discussed.

### **REPORTS**

Trustee Adamson reported the Recreation Department basketball hoops are being installed courtesy of Fox Fence and Ken Young Paving.

Trustee Adamson advised the Board of a request for signage by a visually impaired resident. Mayor Reynolds had also been approached regarding this matter and has asked Superintendent Muller to order and install the sign.

Trustee Lockhart reported that he and Attorney Caserta will be attending NYCOM training next week. He also reported he will attend Niagara County Public Safety training and emergency training with the Sheriff. He announced boats will be arriving in Buffalo Naval Park for tours from September 12-15<sup>th</sup>. Letters are being sent from HomeServe to residents in the attempt to sell waterline insurance which may prompt residents concerns, especially the elderly. Many of the items covered with the insurance were questioned.

Trustee VanDeusen discussed the robo-calls used by the Lew-Port School District and asked Deputy Mayor Sutor about possibly using such calls to notify residents in the event of an emergency. He stated the State currently has such a system.

Trustee VanDeusen stated she has been working on the upcoming Community Picnic and invited everyone to come on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Reynolds reported he and his wife had attended the Historical Walk during the week and encouraged all to participate in future walks. He stated it was very informative and interesting. The Mayor publically thanked the Historical Museum for the enjoyable evening.

With no further business, Deputy Mayor Sutor motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried. The meeting ended at 7:58 p.m.

The Board entered into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Respectfully,  
Barbara J. Castilon  
Clerk Treasurer

At 8:15 p.m., Deputy Mayor Sutor motioned to return to regular session, seconded by Trustee Adamson. In regular session, Trustee Lockhart motioned to retain CRA Engineering at a cost of \$500. per month subject to project review and approval by the Village Attorney and with that approval, the Mayor to sign for general engineering services for the Village. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Sutor and carried.

Deputy Mayor Sutor then motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried. The meeting ended at 8:17 p.m.