

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING –JANUARY 24, 2013

Mayor Reynolds opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Deputy Mayor Sutor, Trustees Adamson, Lockhart and VanDeusen, Attorney Caserta, Building Inspector Stevens, Police Chief Salada, DPW Superintendent Muller and several residents.

The Mayor then asked for public comment. Norman Swann of Brampton Rd. asked how the Village budget is. Mayor Reynolds stated things look good and that the Board will be reviewing the budget at the half year point. Mr. Swann stated his concerns of rising health care costs and retirement benefits, asking if the Village employees pay for health insurance. Attorney Caserta answered stating that employees hired after 2004 do pay a portion of the cost. When Mr. Swann asked if part time employees receive New York State Retirement benefits he was told that they do not. Mr. Swann asked if the union contract was settled yet and Attorney Caserta stated it was not.

Tony Clark of the Historical Museum reported there has not been a Village Historian since Janet Jachlewski retired. He asked that the Board search for a candidate since the Museum has been unsuccessful in their search. Mr. Clark also stated the Town of Porter has a Deputy Historian who has filled in for the Historian. Trustee Adamson suggested an ad be placed in the newspaper in an attempt to fill the position.

Building Inspector Stevens reported some on-going items have been resolved. He also stated the Hastings property on Main St. may be demolished as it is not of historic value. Inspector Stevens will discuss the matter with Mr. Hastings in an effort to resolve the vacant building problem. Mr. Hastings remains interested in a townhouse project at the same site. Inspector Stevens also reported on the status of Heritage Auto.

Police Chief Salada stated his report had been submitted and that he has just received funds from Niagara County to provide extra patrols.

Engineer Lannon was absent.

DPW Superintendent Muller reported his department has been working on the Recreation Building bathrooms at Vets Park and plowing roads.

Attorney Caserta stated he will address items as needed.

The minutes of the January 10, 2013 meeting were approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sutor and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Utility taxes received from Matrix Telecom-\$21.38, Broadview Networks-\$6.74, Granite Telecom-\$1.36, TWC Digital Phone-\$87.27, AT&T-\$3.86, ACN Communications-\$5.19, IDT Telecom-\$8.54, MCI-\$5.61, Accent Energy-\$8.75, Youngstown Police Dept. DWI Funds received-\$3,280.00 and December 2012 Sales Tax-\$47,937.47, up \$1,334.06 from the same time period last year. So noted.
2. Notification from the Town of Porter that sewer rates will remain the same for 2013. So noted.
3. Thank you received from Peggy Hanson for Community Christmas Basket project help. She also sent a sampling of some of the thank you's received from basket recipients. So noted.
4. Youngstown Business & Professional Association will host a St. Patrick's Day Kick-Off Event at noon on Saturday, March 16, 2013 honoring the late Mayor Neil Riordan. So noted. The Board will participate in the event.

AGENDA

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending January 24, 2013-General Fund-\$22,468.49, Water Fund-\$29,879.65 and Sewer Fund-\$36,332.37 was approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Sutor, seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried.
2. Approval of monthly balance sheets, revenues and appropriation reports for the General, Water, Sewer and Trust Agency for the period ending December 2012 was approved by motion of Trustee Lockhart, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
3. Trustee Adamson motioned to authorize the transfer of appropriations for 2012-2013 General Fund budget in the amount of \$107,795., Water Fund budget in the amount of \$681. and Sewer Fund budget in the amount of \$283. Seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried.
4. Update on First Niagara Bank proposed fees. Mayor Reynolds stated he, Trustee Lockhart and the Village Clerk met with Courtney Schafer of First Niagara Bank this week in regard to banking fees. Mrs. Schafer stated the bank loses \$470 a month in maintaining the Village accounts, thus the need to charge monthly fees. The monthly fees would be more than the interest earned as current interest rates are very low. She then stated the solution would be to switch the accounts from interest bearing savings accounts to non-interest bearing checking accounts. Mrs. Schafer advised that if interest rates improve, the accounts could be switched back to interest bearing. Mayor Reynolds reported that First Niagara does not handle government accounts in the same manner that HSBC did in that government accounts are handled at First Niagara's Albany office, not at the local branch level. The Mayor also reported the Village is talking to other banks regarding fees charged in an effort to cut costs to the taxpayers. Trustee Lockhart motioned to covert the Village interest bearing bank accounts to non-interest accounts in lieu of monthly service fees, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
5. Request for resolution support for vacant structure contact information. Mayor Reynolds explained that the proposed resolution would require banks to give contact information to municipalities on foreclosed properties. Trustee Adamson motioned to approve endorsement of the resolution, seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried.
6. Authorization for Clerk to transfer funds from the Water Fund owed to the Sewer Fund from water/sewer bill collections in the amount of \$19,634.04 for the period of December 1, 2012 through January 23, 2013 was given by motion of Trustee VanDeusen, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sutor and carried.
7. Authorization for Clerk to transfer funds in the amount of \$5,000. from the H account, Capital Projects Fund savings to the General fund checking for the purpose of making payment to the First Niagara BAN, waterfront project was made by motion of Deputy Mayor Sutor, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
8. The next Board Meeting will be held on February 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. So noted.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business discussed.

REPORTS

Trustee VanDeusen reported she will be attending a press conference outside the Lew-Port School on Friday, January 25, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. called by Residents for Responsible Government. The purpose is to make the public aware of the dangers of the abundance of truck traffic in our community by CWM and initiatives to eliminate and / or reduce the

danger to residents. Trustee VanDeusen stated Tim Henderson, whose son was killed in a collision with a CWM truck will be speaking at the press conference. He has joined a national organization called Road Safe America that supports legislation to help educate, train, enforce and mandate truck safety for trucking companies and their drivers.

Trustee Lockhart continues work to establish electronic recycling in the Village. He has discussed the matter with Superintendent Muller in an attempt to find a storage spot for electronics collected. Currently, trucks and snow equipment occupy much of the space at the DPW complex. A spring collection date may be possible so collection pallets can be placed for the electronic items. The Village would receive three cents per pound collected.

Trustee Lockhart also reported on his work to add drainage data to the Village Code. He has and will continue to work with Building Inspector Stevens, DPW Superintendent Muller and Engineer Lannon on this project which will take several months to complete. Attorney Caserta will be asked to review the data.

Deputy Mayor Sutor stated Modern Disposal has provided updated recycling information which he has added to the Village webpage.

Trustee Adamson reported the celebrity bartenders night will be held in April so there will not be a conflict with the St. Patrick's Kick-Off event mentioned earlier in the meeting.

Mayor Reynolds asked for any further comments from the public. Hearing none, the Mayor stated the Board will enter into Executive Session following the Board meeting to discuss personnel matters. Trustee Adamson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon
Clerk Treasurer

The Board of Trustees entered into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. The Session ended at 8:00 p.m.

