

PUBLIC HEARING – APRIL 11, 2013

Mayor Reynolds opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Deputy Mayor Sutor, Trustees Adamson and Lockhart, Attorney Caserta, Police Chief Salada, DPW Superintendent Muller, Engineer Lannon, several interested residents, business owners, two business venture representatives and a reporter from the Sentinel. Trustee VanDeusen and Building Inspector Stevens were absent.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read the following:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Board of Trustees of the Village of Youngstown, N.Y., will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of considering and hearing all interested persons concerning the following:

Tentative Budget for 2013-2014, for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2013 and ending May 31, 2014. Compensation will remain the same as the past five years for the Mayor which has been set at \$7,498., for the Deputy Mayor at \$6,151. and for each of the three Trustees at \$5,656. A copy of the tentative budget is available at the Village Clerk's Office and may be inspected Monday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mayor Reynolds asked if the public had any comment regarding the tentative budget. He was asked for a brief synopsis of the budget. The Mayor stated the tax rate would increase by nine cents per thousand and the overall expenditures have increase by just over \$45,000. The Board worked to reduce expenses although required State mandates force increases of which the Village has no control and yet must keep within the 2% tax cap. No new equipment will be purchased in this budget. Mayor Reynolds stated the Public Hearing would remain open in case anyone might have questions later.

The Mayor asked for any other public comment. Eric Wieland of the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co. announced they will host an electronic recycle day on Saturday, May 4, 2013. Further information will be publicized in the Sentinel. Deputy Mayor Sutor asked if there is a limit to the number of items a person may bring. Mr. Wieland stated there is no limit and the event is not just for Village residents.

Aaron Dey, a local resident who has had businesses in Florida and currently a bottled water business addressed the Board regarding river cruises. Mr. Dey referenced the Black Pearl boat tours in Lewiston which donates revenue to the Lewiston Historical Museum. He stated he has found a teak and mahogany wood sailboat named the Fleur-de-Lis which he wants to use for tours of the Niagara River and donate the net proceeds to the Historical Society. Mr. Dey stated he would need a 30-40 foot docking area for the 28 foot sailboat which is smaller than the 68 foot Black Pearl. The boat would run on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with tickets being affordably priced. Terry Duffy of the Sentinel asked if the boat was certified for use on both sides of the border which Mr. Dey replied that it is. Trustee Adamson asked about the insurance coverage. Mr. Dey stated there would be an umbrella policy with a minimum of \$5,000,000. coverage. A waiver for passengers would be required before sailing and no one under six years of age would be permitted to ride. Mr. Dey stated sunset and dinner cruises are being considered with local restaurants providing the food. Trustee Adamson asked that Mr. Dey work with Village Attorney Caserta on the details involved.

Mike Fox, a local resident spoke of his proposed plan for jet boats, Niagara Jet Adventures. He reported that he has partnered with an Idaho resident who produces the 33 foot long and 11 foot wide jet boats with a 17 horsepower. Mr. Fox will be taking over Petroy Marina which will become Fox Boys Marina but will need a spot to dock for passengers. He has proposed a floating dock with a catwalk. Trustee Adamson asked if this would be a temporary dock only. Mr. Fox confirmed it would. A brief video was shown to those in attendance and pictures of the actual jet boat were displayed. Mr. Fox stated he would like to start with one boat in August and eventually have a total of three. Reporter Terry Duffy asked for the jet boat capacity. Mr. Fox replied the capacity is 33 but he would cut the number to approximately 20 passengers and a driver. He reported the proposed jet boats are different from the ones currently in use, the seats are designed

for a smoother ride and passengers would not get the water directly on them. Resident Donna Huggins asked about problems that have been associated with the current jet boat in regard to water swales. Mr. Fox stated this would not be a problem. Mark Butera of Anchor Spirits asked about noise which Mr. Fox stated will be less wake and less noise than the current boats. He also reported each jet boat costs \$500,000. and is constructed of aluminum. Reporter Terry Duffy asked if this would be a seasonal venture and would the boats go into the lake. Mr. Fox stated it may become more than seasonal if fishing charters were added and would not go into the lake yet. A discussion took place regarding parking for tourists using the jet boats. Trustee Adamson stated Mr. Fox needs to discuss insurance issues, parking, hours of operation and lease terms with Attorney Caserta. He also stated this would give people a reason to come to Youngstown and would help the area businesses. Mark Butera stated he is also the Youngstown Business and Professional Association secretary and said it sounds like a wonderful idea, offering assistance to Mr. Fox. Gary Brennan of Brennan's Irish Pub stated that of all the ideas he has seen in his 26 years of business, this could add to the business district. Mr. Fox reported the rides would be approximately 50 minutes long. Also, there will a store in the marina and gas will be sold. He is currently clearing out the marina where the jet boats can be stored. The boats can also be trailered. Terry Duffy stated both proposals will be featured in the upcoming edition of the Sentinel.

Donna Huggins read a letter on behalf of the Youngstown Business and Professional Association regarding their position on acquiring the property at the corner of Main and Lockport Sts. at Water St. The letter referenced the property as the Village's signature view and was signed by various members of the Association. Mark Butera asked that the Board support the move to acquire the prime piece of property with possible grant dollars that might be available.

Dale Ellsworth of the Historical Museum reported its members voted to purchase 50 chairs as a gift to the Village for use in the Cora Gushee Room. Possible transporting of the chairs may be needed. Mayor Reynolds thanked Mr. Ellsworth and the group for their generous gift and stated the DPW employees could pick up the chairs if needed.

Building Inspector Stevens was absent but submitted his report for March. Four permits were completed with work valued at \$14,900. and \$145. in fees were collected. Trustee Lockhart stated Mr. Stevens will be addressing the issue of blue tarps being used by some residents to cover roofs and will also investigate vacant and foreclosed properties.

Police Chief stated a recent walk through the business district to discuss any concerns business owners had was very successful. Good feedback came from the business visits. The Chief submitted his monthly report. 190 patrol hours were worked, 980 patrol miles logged, 11 Village calls, 7 Town of Porter calls, 9 calls outside the Village, 14 UTT's issued, 7 parking tickets issued and 5 arrests were made.

Engineer Lannon reported that a storm sewer permit application is being developed for use in the Village.

DPW Superintendent Muller reported the crew has been working on the hanging brackets for flower baskets and flags in the business district. Also, spring cleanup has begun and water meters are being replaced at the 90 Lake St. apartment complex. Mark Butera thanked Superintendent Muller for getting the flags up in the business district and stated this is the earliest they have ever gone up. Superintendent Muller also submitted his monthly report for March. 12 hours of overtime work was performed and garbage tonnage was 51.36.

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

The minutes of the March 14, 2013 meeting were approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Utility taxes received from TWC-\$88.99, AT&T-\$2.46, Granite Telecom-\$1.37,

Niagara Mohawk-\$2,697.95, MCI-\$5.35, National Fuel-\$2,708.60, Vonage-\$6.17, Dominion Telecom-\$1.03 and Niagara County Sales Tax for February-\$28,331.33, up \$1,587.40 from the same time period last year. So noted.

2. Tire collection day is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2013 at the Youngstown Village Hall parking lot from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The drop site is open to Village of Youngstown and Town of Porter residents only. Tires with or without rims will be accepted. So noted.
3. Water gallonage report for the period of February 28-March 28, 2013 consumption down 31,809 gallons per day from the same time period last year and for the period of December 31, 2012-March 28, 2013 consumption down 27,062 gallons per day for the same time period last year. So noted.
4. Youngstown Peace Garden Committee has received two certificates of recognition which they have framed and given to the Village for possible public display. Mayor Reynolds stated an appropriate spot will be found to hang the certificates.
5. Notice from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regarding the statewide ban on open burning from March 14-May 15, 2013. So noted.

AGENDA

1. The Abstract of Audited Vouchers for period ending March 28, 2013-General Fund-\$22,651.82, Water Fund-\$8,006.39, Sewer Fund-\$523.96 and Trust Agency Fund-\$36.00 and for the period ending April 11, 2013-General Fund-\$40,015.19, Water Fund-\$11,576.73, Sewer Fund-\$558.01 and Trust Agency Fund-\$95.00 were approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Sutor, seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried.
2. A motion was made at 8:07 p.m. by Trustee Lockhart to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
3. Approval of monthly balance sheets, revenues and appropriation reports for the General, Water, Sewer and Trust Agency for the period ending March 2013 was made by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried.
4. Authorization of transfer of appropriations for 2012-2013 General Fund budget in the amount of \$3,027 was approved by motion of Deputy Mayor Sutor, seconded by Trustee Adamson and carried.
5. Authorization for Clerk to transfer funds from the Water Fund owed to the Sewer Fund from water/sewer bill collections in the amount of \$1,999.14 for the month of March 2013 was approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sutor and carried.
6. Authorization for Clerk and Deputy to attend Niagara County Clerks' Association meeting on April 18, 2013 was made by motion of Deputy Mayor Sutor, seconded by Trustee Lockhart and carried.
7. Authorization for Clerk to send any unpaid Village water / sewer bills for quarter ending December 31, 2012, any outstanding account receivables and any formerly exempts to Niagara County for inclusion to property tax bills was made by motion of Trustee Lockhart, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sutor and carried.
8. Authorization for Mayor to sign the Niagara Falls National Heritage resolution was approved by motion of Trustee Adamson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sutor and carried after Mayor Reynolds read the resolution to those in attendance.
9. The next Board Meeting will be held on April 25, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. So noted.

OLD BUSINESS No old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Adamson stated the two boating ventures are the best opprotunities to come to the Village in decades. This will bring people to the waterfront and to the businesses. He also stated there are not many chances for such ventures to come our way.

Mayor Reynolds stated that speaking for the Board, they are in support of the ventures but details have to be worked out.

Trustee Lockhart stated Fort Niagara is the attraction to come to now, but Youngstown will be the destination.

REPORTS

The Clerk's financial report to augment the monthly revenue and expense journal for period ending March 31, 2013 was provided to each Board member for review and is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Trustee Adamson reported the Recreation Department's Celebrity Bartenders Night will be held at the Jug on Saturday, April 13th from 5-10 p.m. with proceeds going to the Nancy Price scholarship fund. The Nancy Price Walk and Run will be held on Saturday, May 11th. Trustee Adamson also reported the Recreation Department will provide funds to install a new basketball court and swings at Lion's Park, which is a satellite park in the neighborhood. Mayor Reynolds stated the money will come from funds raised by the Recreation Department.

Deputy Mayor Sutor reported training has begun in the Village Office on the new software programs. He also reported the Village water report in now on the Village website.

Mayor Reynolds asked for any further public comment. Mona Lockhart of Oak St. asked if the Village grant writer could get involved in trying to obtain funds to acquire the Main and Lockport Sts. land. Mayor Reynolds said he would definitely talk to the Village grant writer but would also like to see if there are other avenues to explore, not wanting to limit the search for funds.

Mayor Reynolds stated the Board would be going into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters following the meeting adjournment.

With no further business, Trustee Adamson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sutor and carried. The meeting ended at 8:25 p.m. and the Board entered into Executive Session. The Session ended at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Castilon
Clerk Treasurer

