



INCORPORATED:  
APRIL 18, 1854

# Village of Youngstown

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## Board of Trustees meeting agenda- Organizational Minutes – July 17, 2025

Village attendees	Present	Absent	Village attendees	Present	Absent
Mayor Rob Reisman	X		DPW Supt. Greg Quarantillo	X	
Deputy Mayor Rick Stortecky	X		Police Chief Shawn Bosi	X	
Trustee Catherine Stella	X		Recreation Director Jeff Gruarin		X
Trustee Kristel Stevens	X		Attorney Chris Trapp	X	
Trustee Nicole Quarantillo	X		Engineer Bob Lannon		X
Village Clerk Alexandra Long	X		Historian Peter Pfohl		X
Village Treasurer Kim Winning	X		Building Inspector Jeffery/ Palermo		X
Estimated Attendance	17		Deputy-Clerk Treasurer Kristin Larson	X	

*Reminder to all Trustees and Department Heads: Use the microphone closest to you while speaking. Turn the microphone off when not speaking.*

### QUORUM ANNOUNCEMENT:

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Reisman at 7:03 P.M with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:** *A copy of all written reports submitted prior to the meeting are available for public viewing on the table with agenda and the sign in sheet in the board room.*

Police: Nothing further to add

Department of Public Works: Nothing further to add

Clerk's Office: Nothing further to add

Recreation: Not in attendance

Engineer: Not in attendance

Grant Writer: Not in attendance

Building Inspector: Not in attendance

Attorney: Attorney Trapp stated that the Clerk's office would be receiving documents in the upcoming weeks.

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

### **Sales Tax:**

May 2025 monthly Sales Tax distribution to the Village of Youngstown was received on June 27, 2025 in the amount of \$ 43,501.14 from Niagara County.

So noted.

### **Abstract of Audited Vouchers:**

Vouchers for the period from June 26 through July 17, 2025:

General:	\$	67,086.25
Water:	\$	25,400.86
Sewer:	\$	65,035.17
H-Cap	\$	208,298.62
Trust:	\$	2,049.00
Total	\$	367,869.90

Trustee Stevens had a question regarding Voucher No. 584, listed as "Install Accumulator" from Schroeder, Joseph and Associates, coded to 8511.0.4 for \$240. Trustee Stevens noted that the description and vendor did not appear to match the supporting invoice. Clerk Long confirmed that the invoice should be from KDMTS for an air conditioning unit for the dump truck and acknowledged a labeling error.

Mayor Reisman asked for a motion to approve the Abstract of Audited Vouchers, with the understanding that the incorrect voucher would be corrected prior to finalization. The motion was made by Trustee Stella and seconded by Trustee Quarantillo. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **Budget Amendment:**

#### **Legal Services:**

A budget amendment in the amount of \$128.78 is needed for legal services.

Money will need to be moved from A1990.4 Contingency and moved to A1420.4. Attorney retainer and expenses.

Mayor Reisman asked for a motion to approve the budget amendment. The motion was made by Trustee Quarantillo and seconded by Trustee Stella. Trustee Stevens did not vote, stating she needed clarification on the item. Trustee Stevens inquired about the \$128.78 charge included in the amendment. Mayor Reisman explained that the amount was for EEOC legal services. Clerk Long added that the charge would appear on the next abstract in August and

offered to send a copy of the related voucher to Trustee Stevens. All others in favor. Motion carried by majority, excluding the abstention.

## **CONTRACTS/AUTHORIZATIONS:**

Approval is requested from the Board for the following membership status changes at the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company:

- Gregory Quarantillo Jr. – Moving from Restricted Member to Probationary Membership
- Jaden Reid – Moving from Restricted Member to Probationary Membership
- Oliver Clark – Moving from Restricted Member to Probationary Membership
- Olivia Reagan – To become a Probationary Member
- Anthony Jones – To become a Probationary Member

Mayor Reisman asked for a motion to approve the membership changes for Gregory Quarantillo Jr. Trustee Quarantillo recused herself from the vote. The motion was made by Trustee Stevens and seconded by Trustee Stella. All others in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Reisman asked for a motion to approve the membership changes for Jaden Reid, Oliver Clark, Olivia Reagan, and Anthony Jones. The motion was made by Trustee Quarantillo and seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **ITEMS / DISCUSSION/ CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

#### **Short-Term Rental:**

#### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

*Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Youngstown, located at 240 Lockport Street, Youngstown, NY, will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments and hear from all interested parties regarding matters related to short-term rentals within the Village.*

*07/03/2025*

*Alexandra Long*

*Village Clerk*

*Village of Youngstown*

Mayor Reisman asked for a motion to open the public hearing. The motion was made by Trustee Quarantillo and seconded by Trustee Stella. All in favor. Motion carried.

#### **Public Hearing Public Comment:**

All comments shall be kept to 3 minutes and directed to the Village Board of Trustees.

Mayor Reisman explained that the document is a draft and not a final local law. There will be time for revisions, with a vote expected at the August 21st meeting. He noted that the draft was condensed from longer versions used by other municipalities, including a 13-page version from the Village of Lewiston.

Attorney Trapp confirmed that after the law is adopted, it must be filed with the Department of State, and the effective date will depend on when it is filed. Mayor Reisman then opened the floor for public comment.

Resident Rick Lohr of 435 Main Street thanked the Board for providing the draft in advance and noted that the version presented at the meeting appeared different from the one he had previously received. Mayor Reisman confirmed that some additions had been made and that further changes may still occur.

Mr. Lohr asked whether the draft was created by the full Village Board or an individual. Mayor Reisman explained that while all board members received background materials about six weeks prior, the draft was compiled by Mr. Palermo at the Mayor's request to simplify and organize the information.

Mr. Lohr expressed concern about ambiguous language in the draft and requested that the Board go through the document item by item, explaining each section before opening the floor to public comment. Mayor Reisman agreed that the language could be confusing and stated they would review the draft section by section as time permitted.

Mayor Reisman read a portion of the draft regulation regarding Short-Term Rentals (STRs), which defined an STR as the occupancy of a single-family residence for a term of no more than 30 days on two or more occasions during any six-month period or for less than 24 hours. Occupancy would be limited to two people per bedroom, plus two additional occupants.

Mayor Reisman noted that, after speaking with Mr. Palermo, the language would need to be revised to reflect that not all STR properties are single-family homes, acknowledging that this may apply to some residents in attendance.

Mayor Reisman read the purpose of the draft law, which aims to prevent disturbances and unfair impacts from short-term rentals while protecting legitimate businesses. The regulation requires STR registration to safeguard public health, safety, and neighborhood welfare, a language added per Attorney Trapp's suggestion.

He then introduced the section on the location of short-term rentals, explaining it covers basic information so everyone is on the same page. Mayor Reisman said he would read through the draft, inviting questions along the way.

Resident Glynis Mieth of 500 Main Street asked about the minimum rental period, noting that a typical stay might be less than 24 hours (e.g., check-in at 4 p.m. and check-out at 11 a.m.). Mayor Reisman confirmed it's similar to hotel stays.

Mayor Reisman then began reading the occupancy rules, stating rentals are limited to two persons per bedroom plus two additional people and cannot be rented for special events such as weddings or parties.

Resident Susan Bray of the Village of Youngstown asked for a clear definition of a "party" to differentiate between regular guests and larger gatherings. Resident Glynis Mieth of 500 Main Street shared examples of small family and bereavement gatherings at her home and suggested revising the draft to allow for such events with reasonable limits.

Mayor Reisman responded that enforcement would be on a case-by-case basis, focusing on larger, unexpected crowds. He emphasized the need for a local manager within 30 minutes to handle issues, acknowledging the challenge given Youngstown's location.

Resident Mieth's suggestion to reword the prohibition on special events was acknowledged, with Mayor Reisman noting that police would be involved if necessary.

Mayor Reisman concluded that the regulation aims to prevent problems, highlighting that most short-term rentals in the village are well-managed and do not cause issues.

Mayor Reisman read that all short-term rentals must be within a habitable single-family dwelling. He noted several sections, including this one, will be revised following the board's meeting with Joe Palermo. He clarified that tents, RVs, or camping are not allowed as short-term rentals and acknowledged the language about "single-family dwelling" will be updated accordingly.

Mayor Reisman read that only one short-term rental contract is allowed per parcel at any given time. Resident Sue MacNaughton of 435 Main Street asked about a property on Second Street with two units. Mayor Reisman and Attorney Trapp confirmed the rule applies per unit, meaning each unit can have only one active rental contract. Mayor Reisman acknowledged this language will need to be revised to account for properties with multiple units.

Mayor Reisman read that short-term rental property owners and operators are jointly responsible for compliance with all local, state, and federal health and safety laws, including requirements for smoke detectors, fire alarms, and fire extinguishers, noting this responsibility is a given. Resident Rick Lohr of 435 Main Street confirmed he had no issues with this.

Mayor Reisman read that owners and operators must comply with village rules on noise, burning, maintenance, garbage, and occupancy. He noted plans to simplify the open burning paperwork with an executive summary.

Mayor Reisman read the draft language stating that short-term rental (STR) parking must be limited to on-site garages and driveways. Street parking, oversized vehicles, and parking on landscaped areas were prohibited.

Resident Rick Lohr of 435 Main Street noted that some properties, including his, have multiple lots and adequate off-street parking. He understood the concern was likely focused on avoiding congestion in business districts.

Resident Glynis Mieth of 500 Main Street observed that village lots only fill up during large events, such as the street dance and Labor Day parade.

Resident Sue MacNaughton of 435 Main Street raised concerns about the draft prohibiting oversized vehicles, stating her guests bring boats with trailers and park them on her private property. Mayor Reisman acknowledged that the draft language would need adjustment. Deputy Mayor Stortecky said oversized vehicle parking on landscaped areas is already a code violation. Trustees Quarantillo and Stevens agreed the language should apply only to public or landscaped areas—not private property.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Kristin Larson questioned why STR parking rules should differ from general village parking laws. Mayor Reisman agreed and emphasized the need for enforceable and fair language.

Chief Bosi explained that enforcing time-limited parking (such as two-hour limits) requires active monitoring, like marking tires. He noted that determining whether a parked vehicle belongs to a short-term guest versus a resident is difficult, and running license plates requires legal cause.

Mayor Reisman agreed the policy will be revised to reflect existing laws and practical enforcement, while maintaining appropriate oversight.

Mayor Reisman introduced the provision stating that no signage shall be permitted in association with short-term rentals.

Resident Glynis Mieth of 500 Main Street questioned the reasoning behind the restriction, particularly for properties in commercial districts where signage is otherwise allowed. She asked why short-term rentals should be treated differently from other businesses or residential uses that are permitted to have compliant signage.

Mark Mieth of Main Street added that a blanket prohibition on signs could be problematic. He noted that guests unfamiliar with the area might have difficulty locating their rental, potentially leading them to mistakenly knock on neighbors' doors—especially during evening hours. Mayor Reisman acknowledged this concern and agreed it was a valid point. He recalled that in the past, registration and compliance for bed and breakfasts included a signage requirement to help avoid such confusion. He agreed that signage for short-term rentals, particularly in commercial areas, might need to be addressed more practically.

Glynis Mieth emphasized the importance of balancing aesthetics with functionality, especially for visitors trying to locate their rental. The board agreed that the issue of signage should be revisited, possibly allowing appropriate signage through zoning review or for properties in commercial areas.

Resident Susan Bray suggested considering a zoning change to grandfather those already operating short-term rentals, such as Airbnbs or bed and breakfasts, within the commercial district.

Mayor Reisman responded that this issue is already addressed in the current draft, which allows short-term rentals only in the Commercial C district. He noted that existing properties operating outside of that district would be grandfathered.

Resident Sue MacNaughton expressed some confusion regarding the original wording referring to "single-family dwellings" and asked what would happen to properties already operating short-term rentals in other zoning districts.

Mayor Reisman confirmed that existing short-term rentals in the affected zones would be grandfathered under the new rules.

Attorney Trapp clarified that "grandfathered" status applies only to the current owner and does not automatically transfer upon sale. A new owner would need to apply for registration under the then-current regulations.

Mayor Reisman agreed and added that while a new owner could apply for short-term rental status, they would not automatically retain the previous owner's grandfathered status. The Board agreed that additional wording could be added to clarify the intent and implications for future property owners.

Mayor Reisman stated that the owner, operator, or agent shall register with Niagara County and/or New York State for the collection of transient occupancy taxes associated with the operation of a short-term rental. The owner, operator, or agent shall be responsible for all payments, taxes, fees, and charges collected by other agencies, including those collected through online platforms. Mayor Reisman noted that it may be necessary to include New York State in this provision, depending on regulatory requirements.

Resident Glynis Mieth of 500 Main Street referenced Irene Meyers of Niagara County and stated that the County is likely to establish a registry for short-term rentals. Mieth explained that if Niagara County does not implement the registry, it will not be able to collect the bed tax. Meyers was expected to follow up the next week after the topic appeared on the County's agenda. Mieth suggested that if a County registry becomes mandatory and provides the required information to municipalities, it may eliminate the need for a separate local registry.

Mayor Reisman responded that while the County may proceed with a registry, the Village will continue with its own process for the time being, as the timeline and implementation details from the County are still uncertain.

Mayor Reisman addressed short-term rental registration, noting it is marked as not transferable. Mayor Reisman stated that a new owner is required to register with the Village and agreed that registration should be required. Mayor Reisman expressed concern that non-transferability means a new owner must reapply and could be subject to new regulations, which may discourage investment in the property.

Attorney Trapp responded that non-transferability refers only to the registration itself, which is standard practice. Mayor Reisman acknowledged the explanation.

Mayor Reisman confirmed the owner/operator agent must provide renters with the terms of use and asked if the Village could supply this document. He emphasized including quiet hours. Attorney Trapp noted that open burns are prohibited. Mayor Reisman agreed only key points should be included. Attorney Trapp said this is what renters must display. Mayor Reisman confirmed everyone is aligned.

Mayor Reisman read that no short term rental shall be allowed in a dwelling unit subject to an affordable housing agreement restricting rentals, such as 90 Lake Street.

Mayor Reisman also read that any modifications or improvements must comply with the New York State Uniform Building Code and the building permit process.

Mayor Reisman read that properties containing any accessory apartment, in-law apartment, two-family, or multi-family dwelling units are ineligible for short-term rental operations. He acknowledged that this wording needs revision.

Resident Sue Macnaughton noted that currently there are three such properties where the owner occupies one unit and rents the others. Mayor Reisman agreed it might be possible if all other requirements are met.

Mayor Reisman then read number 15, stating property owners are responsible for tenant trash removal, and trash cannot be placed outside more than 12 hours before scheduled pickup or left out for extended periods. Mayor Reisman noted a recent garbage issue at Lockport Street, explaining it was due to trash being put out too early, attracting raccoons, but said this is a standard rule and any issues will be addressed as needed.

Mayor Reisman read that both neighbors shall be provided the operator's or agent's contact phone numbers. A resident questioned who "neighbors" referred to. Attorney Trapp explained the original wording applied to all zoning districts, including residential, which is why "homes" was included. Mayor Reisman clarified the intent was to notify neighbors about short-term rental operations. Building Enforcement Officer Palermo confirmed they are working to clarify the



language to apply correctly, asking if it refers to landowners. Mayor Reisman responded he had checked with neighbors near Kristy Lamb's property on Second Street, who reported no issues and seemed satisfied with the improvements made.

Mayor Reisman read that the Village of Youngstown has the right to assess whether the owner or operator has followed the rules set forth and to revoke the application if the owner or operator has three or more violations or is subject to a fine. Attorney Trapp agreed with the provision. Mayor Reisman added that this could become challenging if an owner with multiple complaints tries to sell the property, as the board would then have to consider those issues before approving a transfer. He noted that while this situation has not yet occurred, it is a possibility to be aware of.

Mayor Reisman read that the Village of Youngstown will impose a \$100 yearly fee for all short-term rentals per parcel. Discussion followed regarding whether the fee should instead be assessed per unit. Mayor Reisman clarified that the intent of the fee is not to generate revenue, but to ensure compliance and that all paperwork is properly completed.

Mayor Reisman read Number 19, stating that short-term rentals will be limited to the C (Commercial) Zoning District. He noted the language may need clarification to ensure it includes all C district variations and reiterated the goal is to avoid short-term rentals scattered throughout residential areas.

Resident Glynis Mieth expressed concern about the lack of hotels in the Village and noted that short-term rentals support tourism and the local economy. She emphasized that most current operators maintain their properties and live on-site.

Mayor Reisman acknowledged her points but stressed that keeping rentals limited to the C district helps prevent future issues with property upkeep and community pushback, which other municipalities have faced.

Resident Susan Bray inquired about the zoning of Elliott and Nancy Price Drive, believing it was designated as commercial. Code Enforcement Officer Joe Palermo clarified that the area is now zoned R-12. Mayor Reisman noted that this change corresponds to the Riverview development.

Mayor Reisman read Number 20 of the Village of Youngstown Short-Term Rental Draft, stating that the Village of Youngstown, Town of Porter Code Enforcement, and/or police officers will be responsible for enforcing any violations.

Mayor Reisman read Number 21 of the Village of Youngstown Short-Term Rental Draft, stating that any current short-term rentals in the Village have been discussed multiple times already. He expressed uncertainty about the origin of the term "grandfather," and noted that if there are any violations, the new rules will apply. He added that the wording of that clause will be worked out.

Resident Rick Lohr expressed appreciation for the progress made but suggested scheduling an additional meeting after revising the draft. He emphasized the importance of reviewing the document beforehand and reaching group consensus to avoid unnecessary work, especially given the time it will take to finalize the process.

Deputy Mayor Stortecky agreed, explaining that the delay was intentional to avoid issues and protect the village from outside parties causing problems. He shared a personal example of a troublesome rental next to his home that has since improved with new owners.

Rick Lohr acknowledged the objectives were well understood and stressed the need to find a mutual way to make the regulations work. He encouraged another meeting without rushing to vote, to allow proper discussion and refinement.

Mayor Reisman then invited other attendees to share any questions or concerns.

Town of Porter Resident William Jenosheck commented that out-of-town property owners pay large property taxes and shouldn't be assumed to be bad people. William Jenosheck responded, clarifying that while these owners may not live in the village or town and therefore cannot vote, they are still taxpayers. Mayor Reisman explained that voting rights depend on residency, and one can only have one domicile for voting purposes.

Attorney Trapp added that according to the Board of Elections, individuals cannot vote in multiple places. Mayor Reisman emphasized that property owners should be able to voice their concerns at meetings like this, even if they do not have voting rights. Attorney Trapp noted this kind of local regulation wouldn't go to a public vote anyway. The discussion underscored the distinction between property ownership, residency, and voting rights.

Resident Robin Wyno shared an example about her sister and brother-in-law, whose home on Southwest Street in Lewiston was sold to an Airbnb owner from Florida, and the property was trashed by renters. Mayor Reisman acknowledged the situation, noting the need for regulations to prevent similar issues.

Resident Sue Macnaughton suggested clarifying definitions in the draft. She referenced information from New York State planning sessions on short term rental regulations, noting that Queensbury defines a short term rental as a dwelling unit, whether or not occupied by the owner or their immediate family, rented for less than 30 consecutive days—excluding hotels, motels, inns, campgrounds, and bed and breakfasts as defined by local code. Mayor Reisman agreed that such clarifications could be added. Resident Sue Macnaughton added that in the commercial district, established inns and bed and breakfasts, like the Ontario House, would not be considered short term rentals.

The public hearing will remain open at this time for further public discussion.

## **BOARD REPORTS:**

Trustee Stella shared updates from the Youngstown Business Professional Association (YBPA) and the Greens & Grooves Jazz Scramble. The YBPA awards dinner will be held September 9th at Niagara Frontier Golf Club, with RSVPs and \$25 prepaid fees encouraged. Their golf tournament is set for September 15th at the same location. The Lewiston Northwest Jazz Festival and Upward Niagara Chamber of Commerce are hosting the Greens & Grooves Jazz Scramble fundraiser on July 28th at Niagara Frontier Golf Club. The GS Jazz Festival is scheduled for August 22nd–23rd.

Trustee Stevens reported on the Labor Day parade preparations, currently focused on securing all necessary road closure permits from Niagara County and New York State. Letters of support have been requested from the mayor, police, and Youngstown Fire Company, and insurance certificates are in place. Trustee Stevens also reminded everyone to watch out for children during ongoing summer activities like junior sailing and soccer tournaments. Mayor Reisman agreed, stressing the importance of caution.

Trustee Quarantillo announced the upcoming fire hall golf tournament on Monday, August 4th, inviting anyone interested to join. She shared that Gregory and Oliver will complete their firefighter one boot camp tomorrow, allowing them to serve as interior firefighters at age 18. The training was intense, lasting two weeks with daily sessions from early morning until completion, including full gear and fire drills. Trustee Quarantillo encouraged everyone to recognize their hard work if they see them around.

Deputy Mayor Rick Stortecky provided an in-depth update on the village's finances and services, addressing questions raised after recent budget meetings about village taxes and expenditures. He aimed to clarify where funds are allocated and highlight the village's fiscal status and community programs. Although the village covers only 1.1 square miles, it contains 25% of the town's population, which necessitates enhanced services. Recreation Director Jeff Gruarin was recognized for winning a Western New York coaching award and securing a \$240,000 Greenway grant that benefits local youth. Police Chief Bossi and Sergeant Palermo secured multiple grants, improved inter-municipal cooperation, and have been vital in emergency responses, including saving two residents' lives in the past year. Village officers work for less than half the pay they could earn elsewhere and receive no benefits.

Deputy Mayor Stortecky stated DPW Superintendent Greg demonstrated remarkable responsiveness, quickly addressing emergency repairs such as clearing fallen trees during storms while maintaining routine village infrastructure. Clerk Alex Long manages key village operations, including coordinating the senior van program that helps residents with transportation to medical appointments and other essential services. Financially, 24% of the village's tax revenue goes toward garbage collection, with an annual cost around \$190,000 under an eight-year contract. The village considered joining the Niagara County Water Commission, which would have reduced water costs by half, but decided against it due to increased resident taxes associated with the commission's ad valorem tax.

The village organizes community events such as concerts, parades, and holiday celebrations, manages the local library, and provides \$130,000 annually to the volunteer fire company, which represents 17% of collected taxes. Village finances are strong, with a New York State fiscal stress test score of zero,

no current debt, and a contingency fund exceeding \$100,000. Salaries and benefits make up only 33% of the budget—much lower than the 57% average in New York municipalities—thanks to careful reengineering and negotiation. The village boasts the lowest tax rate in Niagara County at \$7.81 per \$1,000 assessed value and has not increased taxes this year despite inflation.

Deputy Mayor Stortecky emphasized that eliminating the village tax would simply shift costs to residents through higher fees for essential services like trash and water. He concluded by praising the dedication and sacrifices of village employees and leadership, expressing pride in the community and the services provided. Mayor Reisman thanked Deputy Mayor Stortecky for the comprehensive overview.

Clerk Long shared details about an upcoming special event for local seniors. In partnership with the Town of Lewiston, Town of Porter, Village of Youngstown, and the Lions Club, the Village is hosting a “Senior Night” on Thursday, August 1st, during the regular summer concert series at Falkner Park. The event will run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and feature music by “Joe and the Schmoes,” who play hits from the 1980s and 1990s. Seniors will be provided with hot dogs, snacks, and water, and there will be chairs available for comfort. To ensure accessibility, the senior van service operated by the Towns of Lewiston and Porter, as well as the Village of Youngstown, will be transporting seniors to and from the event. Norm, the senior van driver, will be driving that evening. Clerk Long emphasized the importance of creating opportunities for seniors to get out, enjoy the nice weather, and socialize with others in the community. She expressed pride and excitement about organizing this first-of-its-kind event and encouraged volunteers to arrive by 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Reisman began by mentioning the upcoming garage sale hosted by the Friends of the Downtown Library, which will take place this weekend in the gym—Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday will feature a “bring a bag, fill it for \$5” deal. He noted the strong interest in the event, with crowds already showing up early, prompting the need for a dumpster due to the high volume of donations.

Mayor Reisman then took a moment to recognize the contributions of the Garden Club and the Peace Garden volunteers, acknowledging the tremendous time and effort they put into beautifying the Village. He also expressed appreciation for all volunteers in the community, including the fire department, and shared that he recently signed a statewide petition supporting volunteer and paid EMS workers. The petition advocates for benefits such as toll waivers on throughways and bridges, which would aid emergency responders across the state, including locally.

Mayor Reisman also promoted the Village’s “Text My Gov” system, encouraging residents to sign up. He reassured residents that the service is legitimate and not a scam. It is funded by the Village to provide timely, localized information—such as emergency notices, DPW alerts, and community events like Senior Van Night. It has also been made available to the Town of Porter. The tool is flexible and can be used in cases of public safety, like missing persons or police emergencies. He emphasized that while the contract is short-term, the program’s success will determine if it continues long-term.

Mayor Reisman then highlighted the Nancy Price Memorial Scholarship, calling attention to its significance. As one of the highest-awarded scholarships presented at the local high school—surpassed only by military academy honors—it reflects the spirit of volunteerism and generosity within the community. He noted how special it is to witness this level of support coming from a small village.

Finally, Mayor Reisman announced a new public safety initiative launching the next day: the return of bike patrols. He emphasized the importance of increased police visibility during busy summer weekends, when large crowds—sometimes in the thousands—gather in the area. He hopes the added presence will encourage more families and older residents to feel safe enough to come out and enjoy events. Chief Bosi expressed enthusiasm about the return of bike patrols. Attorney Trapp added that the patrols are federally funded through a grant and will not impact local taxpayers.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mayor Reisman then opened the meeting to public comment. Clerk Long reminded attendees to please state their name and address before speaking.

Norm Papaj of Oak Street addressed the board to share that he recently received a letter from a company representing Verizon Wireless, inquiring about leasing a portion of his property for a cell phone tower. He made clear that he declined the offer but felt it important to alert the board in case other residents receive similar solicitations. The proposed arrangement included a 25-year lease (renewable every five years with a 10% rent increase), with the company covering insurance and property tax increases. Papaj expressed concern over the proximity of 5G towers to residences, citing research suggesting a minimum 1,200-foot distance, whereas the proposed location on his property would place it just 500 feet from neighboring homes. He also raised health concerns due to 5G's higher-frequency signals and noted that 5G technology requires doubling the number of towers due to shorter signal range. Papaj recommended that, should an application eventually be submitted to the village, an impartial RF engineer should evaluate it rather than relying solely on the carrier's report. Mayor Reisman thanked him for bringing the matter to their attention, and Attorney Trapp advised being prepared for similar inquiries. Before leaving the podium, Papaj also thanked Greg and the DPW crew for recent pothole repairs, joking that he could now resume his afternoon naps without being startled by passing trailers. Mayor Reisman responded lightheartedly that the repairs were strategically timed so Papaj would be well-rested to drive the senior van.

Resident Tim Adamson of 510 Church Street, who also serves as a Town of Porter Councilman, addressed the board to commend the Village of Youngstown for the quality of services it provides. He noted that while the Town of Porter spans 36 square miles and has only one park, the Village of Youngstown maintains five parks, which are widely used by town residents. He praised the DPW for keeping the parks in excellent condition.

Adamson also highlighted the sidewalk infrastructure in the village, which allows older adults, young families, and children to walk safely, something that is lacking in much of the Town of Porter, where walking can be hazardous due to traffic and the absence of sidewalks.

Another service he acknowledged was leaf pickup, pointing out that Youngstown begins collection in early October and continues through December. In contrast, the Town of Porter offers only a single dumpster for bagged leaves at the town hall, which many residents find inadequate. Some even bring their leaves to Youngstown's leaf pile near the train station, mistakenly believing it's available for town use. He noted this was problematic since village taxpayers fund the service at a much higher rate than town residents.

Adamson concluded by saying that Youngstown residents receive excellent services and thanked the village board and staff for their continued work.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Community Garage Sale held by the Friends of the Youngstown Free Library will be held at the Village Center Gym Saturday July 19 and Sunday July 20 from 9:00 a.m. -6 p.m.

Niagara Lacrosse Classic will be at Fort Niagara State Park July 19- July 20, 2025.

The next Village Board meeting will be August 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

The Village Board of Trustees entered into executive session at 8:44 p.m. to discuss contracts. The motion to enter executive session was made by Trustee Quarantillo and seconded by Trustee Stevens. The Board returned to the regular meeting at 9:09 p.m., with a motion by Trustee Stella and seconded by Trustee Stevens. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m. on a motion by Trustee Quarantillo and seconded by Trustee Stevens.