

## Village of Lima Board Meeting Minutes

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Present:** John Skiptunas, Mayor; Brian Smith, Deputy Mayor; Trustees Carolyn Fleming, Melinda Fleming, and Ben Dodzweit.

**Others Present:** Matthew Lenahan, Attorney; Elissa Sackett, Clerk; Ben Luft, DPW Supervisor; Dick Garey, Fire Chief; Dominic Muscato, Ambulance Asst. Captain; Mark Petroski.

**Absent:** Larry Teta, WWTP Operator.

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order Mayor Skiptunas at 7:00pm Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at Lima Town Hall, 7329 E. Main St. and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### *Motion*

A motion was made by Trustee Dodzweit and seconded by Trustee C. Fleming to approve the meeting minutes from September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Department Reports**

#### **Fire Department – Dick Garey, Fire Chief**

Chief Garey discussed the July Fire Report. He said that the fire department is looking into purchasing a LUCAS CPR device. Current price for the device is approximately \$30k. The fire department will pay for half the costs from their fund drive and the remaining from their Village account.

#### **Ambulance – Dominic Muscato, Ambulance Asst. Captain**

Asst. Captain Muscato discussed the Ambulance report for August. He informed the board that the ambulance is in dire need of staff to continue to operate. The board inquired if there were grants that could help to offset costs of a per-diem staff. There is a federal grant called the SAFER grant that the ambulance could apply for in conjunction with the fire department. Chief Garey will look into this with ambulance representatives to see if it is something viable for both agencies. The board also requested sending mailers to all residents informing them of the need for volunteers, as well as providing in-like service incentives to local business to allow for an employee to become a volunteer. The board will discuss further with Chief Rose and give an update at the next board meeting.

Three applicants were presented for approval; Gisela Wheeler, Anthony DeFrank and Riley Evans-VanBuren. Chief Rose has approved both applicants.

### *Motion*

Motion was made Trustee Dodzweit and seconded by Trustee C. Fleming to approve Sean Cahill and Wyatt Kurz as a new member of the Lima Ambulance. Motion passed unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Smith said the Crossroad Council will be donating \$2500 to the Lima Ambulance. He did request that a member of the ambulance be a liaison to the council. Asst. Captain Muscato will discuss with Chief Rose as to who she wishes to appoint.

#### **WWTP – Larry Teta (Absent)**

See report provided by Mr. Teta.

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### **Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) – Charlie Floeser (Absent)**

CEO Floeser discussed his report. He said there has been an issue with the sign being installed at the new nail salon in the old Family Dollar lot but hopes to have it rectified soon. The board inquired on the status of the zombie house at the top of College St. The home is inhabitable, and the roof has caved in in one section. CEO Floeser said the owner intends to knock it down once they finish remodeling a home on Dalton Rd. The board requested the homeowner be notified that the home is unsafe and needs to be taken care of as soon as possible.

The proposed Fire Marshall fees were passed around for the board to review. Mark Petroski, Town board member, was also present to ask questions and discuss the fees. The implementation of said fees would help bring in additional revenue to help offset the costs to run the building department. Currently other local municipalities do not implement Fire Marshall fees, but that does not mean these communities will not review in the future. The board asked to review the current building department fees and explore reducing the proposed fees to help with the costs.

### **DPW – Ben Luft**

Mr. Luft gave an update to the Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory project. There are approximately 100 customers that the Village does not have mapping for, so even though the lines inside their homes show they have copper or plastic, he cannot verify the utility side without actually digging up their yard and verifying the service line. Since these homeowners will be listed as “unknown”, letters will be mailed stating they may have currently have a lead connection or they may have had one in the past. These letters must be sent to homeowners within 30 days of the report being submitted, so letters will be going out soon. The board asked if there is an additional letter that can be added explaining more in depth why they are receiving. Mr. Luft asked if the board was ok if he put something on Positively Lima to explain as well.

The crew was able to install approximately 200 ft of sidewalk on Meadow View Drive. The initial plan was to install only 100 ft, however doing that would not allow access to the sidewalk. By going up to 200 ft, they were able to end at the driveway making the sidewalk accessible. The next 100 ft will be installed next year, and then the only part left will be the corner where Mr. Bellinger’s house is. Deputy Mayor Smith informed Mr. Luft that he was going to reach out to the county and inquire if there are any leftover ARPA funds from the county to help complete the final section of sidewalk.

The leaf machine has been put together and the crew did a trial run that ran smoothly. Mr. Luft has not found a tractor that will suit his needs, so he will continue to use what he has. Leaf collection will begin Mid-October and go until Mid-November. Once finished, it will be time for snow. Lastly, annual sewer cleaning has been completed with no major issues.

### **Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett**

Clerk Sackett presented the Pro-Housing Community Resolution; see attached.

GOGov – Clerk Sackett and Mayor Skiptunas attended a follow up presentation with Emily Gozan from GOGov regarding updates to the product. The texting/voice calling service is now live and an additional \$400 per 10k credits, bringing the overall cost up to \$4k. The Town of

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Lima could also be added to this product at no additional cost. Mr. Petroski (Town Councilman) said he will ask that it be added to the Town of Lima meeting agenda for discussion.

Lastly, Clerk Sackett requested that the Park's Commission please inform the Village office when there are various things happening at the park. This past week she received phone calls regarding an area of the park being tilled and although she knew the festival was being held at the park, she was unaware that the land was being tilled prior as well as the location. Mr. Luft requested the same.

Several invoices were available to the board for review/approval. Payments were the following:

- Ambulance Fund: \$7139.09
- General Fund: \$35403.82
- Sewer Fund: \$5418.61
- Water Fund: \$18545.94
- Capital Fiber: \$27458.46
- Grand Total: \$93965.92

### *Motion*

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Smith and seconded by Trustee C. Fleming to approve payment to invoices as listed above. Motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business

**Fiber Optic Update** – Mayor Skiptunas provided an update on the fiber project. The lines are completed, and the POP is installed. The lines are being run by Syracuse Utilities from Dansville to Lima and anticipate those lines to be completed in about a month. All pole applications are also completed. It is anticipated that service will be ready the first quarter of 2025. Empire will work with the Village to provide marketing information to residents letting them know that the service is now available.

**Proposed Fire Marshall Fees** – See CEO Report for update.

**Streetlights** – The maintenance contract with New York Power Authority (NYPA) is coming up for renewal at the end of October. NYPA has offered a 4-month service contract while they go through new vendor contract negotiations. Clerk Sackett discussed her concerns with NYPA, and the service received. She has also reached out to other municipalities in the streetlight program, and all have had the same experience. The board agreed to sign the 4-month contract to not lose coverage, and to look at potential vendors while NYPA goes through contract negotiations so they can compare costs of services.

Clerk Sackett also informed the board that proposed costs to replace the decorative fixture on Hogan Ave will be \$3246.16 and NYPA has said that there is a 12-week lead time. She inquired about what was broken with the fixture, but there was no note as to what was wrong. She has asked NYPA contractors to please take the fixture apart and clean it well to see if that will bring the light back online before paying to replace the entire fixture. This worked for the fixture on Eastwood Dr. so she is hopeful that it will work for the fixtures on Hogan.

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**New Business**

**New Village Website** – Clerk Sackett passed around a proposal from Genesee Valley Web Marketing (GVWM) to develop a new website for the Village. The proposal includes a website redesign and development, page creation and deployment, content migration, maintenance, hosting and support.

***Motion***

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Smith and seconded by Trustee M. Fleming to approve the proposal from Genesee Valley Web Marketing to create a new website for the Village of Lima. Motion passed unanimously.

**Round Table**

Trustee Dodzweit – Asked for an update on the O’Brien property donation. Attorney Lenahan is working on this, and documents are currently with Mr. O’Brien’s attorney for review.

Trustee M. Fleming – Discussed delegating who will work on what regarding the Ambulance recruitment ideas.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Smith and seconded by Trustee M. Fleming to enter Executive Session at 9:30pm to discuss personnel matters. Motion passed unanimously. Executive Session ended at 9:35pm. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Elissa Sackett  
Village Clerk/Treasurer  
Village of Lima

**\*All documents listed in the minutes are available to review at the Village office during regular business hours.**

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Deputy Mayor Smith offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**Pro-Housing Communities Resolution Village of Lima**

WHEREAS, the Village of Lima (hereinafter “local government”) believes that the lack of housing for New York residents of all ages and income levels negatively impacts the future of New York State’s economic growth and community well-being;

WHEREAS, the housing crisis has negative effects at regional and local levels, we believe that every community must do their part to contribute to housing growth and benefit from the positive impacts a healthy housing market brings to communities;

WHEREAS, we believe that supporting housing production of all kinds in our community will bring multiple benefits, including increasing housing access and choices for current and future residents, providing integrated accessible housing options that meet the needs of people with sensory and mobility disabilities, bringing economic opportunities and vitality to our communities, and allowing workers at all levels to improve their quality of life through living closer to their employment opportunities;

WHEREAS, we believe that evidence showing that infill development that reduces sprawl and supports walkable communities has significant environmental and public health benefits; and

WHEREAS, we believe that affirmatively furthering fair housing and reducing segregation is not only required by law, but is essential for keeping our community strong and vibrant;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Village of Lima, in order to take positive steps to alleviate the housing crisis, adopts the Pro- Housing Communities pledge, which will have us endeavor to take the following important steps:

1. Streamlining permitting for multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.
2. Adopting policies that affirmatively further fair housing.
3. Incorporating regional housing needs into planning decisions. Increasing development capacity for residential uses.
4. Enacting policies that encourage a broad range of housing development, including multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.

Trustee M. Fleming seconded the motion, and it was carried by the following vote:

John Skiptunas, Mayor	Aye
Brian Smith, Deputy Mayor	Aye
Melinda Fleming, Trustee	Aye
Benjamin Dodzweit, Trustee	Aye
Carolyn Fleming, Trustee	Aye