

Village of Lima Board Meeting Minutes
January 23rd, 2024

Present: John Skiptunas, Mayor; Brian Smith, Deputy Mayor; Trustees Joshua Petraitis, John Wadach, and Carolyn Fleming.

Others Present: Matthew Lenahan, Attorney; Elissa Sackett, Clerk; Ben Luft, DPW Supervisor; Steve Werner.

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order by Mayor Skiptunas at 7pm Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024, at Lima Town Hall, 7329 E. Main St. and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion

A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to approve meeting minutes from January 9th, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Guests

Steve Werner – Mr. Werner informed the board the kick-off meeting for the Pumpkin Festival this year will be held on Saturday, February 3rd at 1pm at the Lima Town Hall.

Department Reports

DPW – Ben Luft

Mr. Luft discussed the concerns at the firehouse. The fire department is looking to take \$10k out of the equipment reserve to pay the repair bill from Firematic for the quint 238. They would also like to take up to \$20k out of the building reserve for some upcoming maintenance repairs. This would include the \$4k truck bay heater repair recently completed, repair to the truck bay masonry wall and painting, as well as install an access roof hatch in the kitchen pantry.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to withdrawal \$10k from the Fire Equipment Reserve to pay for repairs made to fire truck 238. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith to withdrawal \$20k from the Fire Building Reserve to complete maintenance repairs at the firehouse. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Luft is working on the bid sheets and specifications for the leaf machine tractor, as well as bids and specifications for the new dump truck. Advertisement will be placed in the upcoming weeks. He has also reached out to Ford regarding the state bid pricing for the dump truck.

The crew has been spending a lot of time getting the Lead and Copper water line information input into the ESRI program. It is going slower than anticipated regarding checking residents' homes, but he will continue to reach out and post about it online.

Mr. Luft met with Pat Nicoletta about the sidewalk on Meadow View Drive. The route has been surveyed and everything staked out. MRB is going to do a low-grade sketch of two options for the sidewalk to present to the board. Once completed and a decision is made on which design concept to move forward with, MRB will complete more extensive designs. Mr. Luft and Mr. Nicoletta also drove through the entire Village and located all storm water drainage components

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and where each flow. Mr. Nicoletta will use that information to put into the maps and then let the Village know the status of the storm water study. The board asked if this information could be entered into the ESRI system; it will be another layer of information added after the lead and copper study is completed.

Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett

Clerk Sackett passed around updated financials for the board to review. She also stated delinquent water/sewer notices have been mailed out to residents who owe for 2023. Last year the penalty was increased from 10% to 12% for any balances that were re-levied onto taxes. It was recommended that the re-levy fee be raised from 12% to 15% this year.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Wadach and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to increase the re-levy penalty from 12% to 15% for all balances re-levied onto Village taxes. Motion passed unanimously.

Updated streetlight lumen replacement quote was given to Mayor Skiptunas to sign. This is to replace the existing 35w bulb with an 80w bulb on Meadow View Drive.

Clerk Sackett gave the following updates regarding Capital projects:

- Capital Sewer – The WQIP funds have finally been received from Department of Environmental Conservation. The funds have been transferred to pay on debt with Environmental Facilities Corporation. Donegan’s office is now working on having the remaining funds converted to permanent financing. The loan through EFC is at 0%.
- Capital Water – Still waiting on Department of Health to release the final funds for the water project (\$599,550). Donegan’s office has sent another email stressing the importance of receiving this disbursement so the Village can pay off the bond anticipation note when it comes due in May. Once the Village receives the funds, this project will be closed as we are already at permanent financing (Public Market Bonds).

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

- Ambulance Fund: \$5541.71
- General Fund: \$7252.69
- Sewer Fund: \$3304.11
- Water Fund: \$13860.40
- Capital Water: \$179.00
- Capital Sewer: \$ -
- Capital Fiber: \$5476.53
- Grand Total: \$35435.44

Trustee Wadach questioned the Surety Bond and asked if it was something the Village needed to keep indefinitely. Clerk Sackett and Attorney Lenahan will review the closing documents.

Update: National Grid has released their interest, surety bond canceled. General fund changed amount changed to \$12204.75.(Elissa, the General Fund amount above is listed as \$7,252.69. Is this the amount that was increased to \$12,204.75? Shouldn’t the deletion of the Surety Bond premium result in a decrease in the General Fund amount?)

Motion

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A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to authorize payment for said invoices. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

ZBA Vacancy – The board discussed potential candidates to replace Village representative Steve Werner on the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). Mr. Werner resigned due to his new position as Town Councilman. Notification placed on the Village website stating Village has an opening.

Short Term Rental Law Revisions – Tabled to February 13th.

Fiber Optic Project Update – The revised Phase 1 RFP has been published, and new bid opening date set for February 1st. All RFPs are due by 1:45pm on the first and bid opening will be immediately following. Request Mayor Skiptunas proceed with awarding bid based on Empire’s recommendations and review by Attorney Lenahan.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Wadach and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to authorize Mayor Skiptunas to award the Phase 1 – Underground Conduit project based on recommendations made by Empire Access and review by Attorney Lenahan. Motion passed unanimously.

Joule Assets Payment Update – No update to date. January payment must be made by January 31st. Notification has been sent to Joule reminding them of the payment due.

Livingston County Water Sewer Authority Payment of Outstanding Debt to Village – Mayor Skiptunas, Deputy Mayor Smith, Attorney Lenahan and Mr. Luft have a meeting scheduled for Jan 29th with Jason Molino and the Town of Lima to discuss all outstanding debts owed to the Village. The board expressed concerns regarding LCWSA’s failure to pay their current debts to the Village. It was also noted that there are other chargeable expenses that could be passed on to LCWSA that currently are not. Updates from the water meeting will be provided at the February 13th board meeting. The board was also reminded of the water workshop on January 30th at 7:30pm. Mr. Luft stated that he has heard there are multiple options the Town is looking to present. Some of these options include the Village, some do not, but each section will be discussed, and a vote will take place based on feedback from residents. The consensus of the Board was that no proposals from LCWSA regarding use of the Village’s water system would be considered until all outstanding debt has been paid to the Village.

Firehouse HVAC Analysis – Andy Luft is working on having someone complete an analysis on the HVAC system and a replacement schedule. Everything is currently working at the firehouse.

Park Master Plan Review and Update – Mayor Skiptunas has asked Andy Britton along with the Park’s Commission to work on updating the master plan. Having the updated plan can help both the Village and Town apply for grants in the future.

Round Table

Deputy Mayor Smith

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- Will be nominating the Lima Volunteer Ambulance for EMS Agency of the Year through the Monroe Livingston Regional EMS Council. Also recommend nominating Chief Rose for the Harriet Weber Leadership Award.
- The EV station is earning money. Usage and idle time have gone down since charges have been implemented.

Trustee Wadach

- Currently a bill is going through the NYS Legislature that would codify into law the right for municipalities to offer Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) and Community Distributed Generation (CDG) programs. He suggested the Village send a letter of support for the changes.

Motion

A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to enter Executive Session at 8:13pm to discuss pending litigation matters. Motion passed unanimously. Motion to end Executive Session at 8:25pm and meeting adjourned.