

Village of Lima Board Meeting

September 12th, 2023

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

Others Present: Matthew Lenahan, Attorney; Elissa Sackett, Clerk-Treasurer; Ben Luft, DPW Supervisor; Meg Rose, Ambulance Chief; Steve McGrath, Fire Chief; Charlie Floeser, CEO.

Absent: Larry Teta, WWTP Operator.

Guests: Steve Warner, Ron Blodgett

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order by Mayor Skiptunas at 7pm Tuesday, September 12th, 2023, 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 Carolyn Fleming to approve meeting minutes from August 22nd, 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

Guests

Steve Warner – Mr. Warner gave updates on the Pumpkin Festival. He asked Trustee Petraitis if the boy scouts were still going to be participating in the Chicken BBQ and asked about an update for vendors from the Farmers Market. He requested more beautifications be done at the park before the event takes place. The next Pumpkin Festival meeting will be held on Wednesday 9/13 at the Lima Town Hall at 6:30pm. He also discussed a meeting he attended in Geneseo and gave updated statistics on the increase in visitors to Lima.

Department Reports

Fire Department – Steve McGrath, Fire Chief

Chief McGrath stated the fire department recently changed their by-laws and the Ladies Auxiliary will now be incorporated into the fire department. The change was made to allow auxiliary members to provide additional support services to the fire department. Chief McGrath will provide the Village with a list of auxiliary members once it is received back from Livingston County, but he said there are approximately 18 current auxiliary members.

Ambulance – Meg Rose, Ambulance Chief

Chief Rose discussed the ambulance report for the month of August. She stated that the ambulance remount has been moved up to December. While the rig is out of commission, she has worked it out with Irondequoit to borrow one of their ambulances. She also stated that she will now be taking the ambulances to HFL school for maintenance instead of Guenther's. The school is familiar with ambulance maintenance, and they maintain all of the ambulances for Honeoye Falls EMS.

A new application for membership was presented to the board for review. Melinda Torres has applied to be a driver and has been approved by Chief Rose.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith to approve Melinda Torres as a new member of the Lima Volunteer Ambulance. Motion passed unanimously.

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Trustee Wadach inquired about the increase in electricity at the base. He said that there was a significant jump over the past few months in usage. Chief Rose stated there have been issues with the generator, and that there was more coverage at the base over the summer.

WWTP – Larry Teta (Absent)

See report provided by Mr. Teta.

Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) – Charlie Floeser

CEO Floeser discussed his report. He stated he has sent letters to residents on Genesee St. as well as Buell Ave regarding the state of their properties. He has given each resident until the end of October to clean up their property or face legal action. The board requested the homeowners of three additional parcels in the Village have the same action brought against them (two parcels on Rochester St. and a home on East Main St.).

CEO Floeser discussed the possibility of charging for fire marshal inspections. He stated that there are several other municipalities that charge for this service. The board requested he do some additional research regarding what an adequate fee would be and report back.

The board asked CEO Floeser about the status of the ramp located at 7168 West Main St. that is not up to code. CEO Floeser said he talked with the attorney for the property owners, and they have worked out a plan for individuals to use the side entrance as necessary. The board asked if the ramp was still present, to which the response was yes. It was reiterated again that if the ramp is not up to code, it must be removed or replaced. CEO Floeser was instructed to send another certified letter explaining this to the property owner.

DPW – Ben Luft

Mr. Luft met with the contractor who was awarded the contract for construction of the pavilion at the dog park. He expressed concerns with the contractor trying to drive the concrete truck to pour the slab at the park and the truck getting stuck as the ground is not that sturdy in the area. He will continue to work as needed with the contractors on the project.

The DPW crew will be removing flowers in the downtown district this week and Friday will be the last day of watering the trees. The trees have been watered all summer and appear to be doing quite well on their own.

He has started to work on fabricating the new leaf machine to fit the Village needs. He will continue to work on it and hopes to have it ready to use this year. If everything goes well, next year the old leaf machine will go to auction. Lastly, two of the new electric mowers are already back at LandPro. There appears to be an electrical issue that is intermittent. Both mowers are covered under warranty, so there will be no cost to fix.

Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett

Clerk Sackett presented a Resolution to turn over taxes at the end of the Village collection period to Livingston County and requested they collect all unpaid taxes. See attached resolution. (Please add the resolution to the end of this file).

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

- Ambulance Fund: \$6701.56
- General Fund: \$13396.39
- Sewer Fund: \$1629.15
- Water Fund: \$116.39
- Capital Water: \$3647.97
- Capital Sewer: \$895.00
- Capital Fiber: \$5513.73
- Grand Total: \$31900.19

Motion

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

Old Business

Revised 2024 Fire and Ambulance Contracts – Mayor Skiptunas stated the Town did not approve the new fire and ambulance contracts as written. He stated Supervisor Falk presented a counteroffer, of a 3-year contract with a 6% increase in 2024, and a 2% increase for both 2025 and 2026. The board discussed the pros and cons of accepting the counteroffer and ultimately decided to proceed with the new proposed contracts. Clerk Sackett will revise and present at the next board meeting for signatures.

Fiber Optic Project

The bid package has been received from Empire Access and is in the process of being reviewed. Trustee Wadach explained that there are several areas that need to be addressed and the specifications need to be written out in the document. Research also needs to be done regarding if the project must follow MWBE procedures (Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises), and that it must have verbiage pertaining to prevailing wages. Trustee Wadach will send a list of specifications and notes to discuss at the next meeting with Empire Access on September 20th.

New Business

Michigan Avenue and Seneca Street Speed Issues – Mayor Skiptunas talked about the with residents speeding on Michigan Avenue since it has been paved and requested the Village consider reducing the speed in the area to 25 mph. He also discussed individuals speeding on Seneca Ave as it is used as a cut through to avoid the stop light at the intersection. Mr. Luft said he has borrowed the Town of Lima's radar machine and placed it on Seneca Ave for the time being and will move it to Michigan Ave next. There are small radar signs that can be installed on existing speed limit poles that are solar powered. Clerk Sackett will research the cost of said sign and report her findings.

Parking Plan Village and Town Lot – Mayor Skiptunas discussed a proposal provided by the Town of Lima to turn the Village and Town parking lots into a one-way system. Mayor Skiptunas stated he did not believe this to be beneficial to the Village and that it would make it much harder for large delivery trucks to utilize the parking lot. The board agreed that the proposal did not seem feasible.

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Wayfinding Grant – Mayor Skiptunas has applied for a Wayfinding Grant through GrowLivCo for up to \$10k. He proposed utilizing this grant to install concrete planters that say “Lima” at the four corners and passed around the design to the board. He said remaining funds would be used to purchase banners that say “Lima” for the downtown district.

Round Table

Mayor Skiptunas

- Supervisor Falk is attending an upcoming training with local legislatures. He has requested information regarding the SAM grant the Village has yet to receive and plans to discuss at the training.

Deputy Mayor Smith

- The statistics that Mr. Warner passed around show that approximately 24k individuals attended the Crossroads Festival this year, which is a significant increase.
- Discussed the contract presented by Dish Network to install cell towers on the water tank. Dish removed specific verbiage regarding how the rental price would increase over the years. Attorney Lenahan is continuing to work on this with Dish. He stated it may be worth looking into breaking the contract with AT&T and renegotiate as their rental is significantly lower than the proposal by Dish as well as Verizon.

Trustee Wadach

- Inquired about the meeting regarding the Avon water line? There were no updates to report at this time.
- Inquired about the status of the supplemental insurance plan for Mr. Teta? Clerk Sackett has not heard back from Bond Benefits. She sent another email earlier in the day requesting information.
- Inquired about the meeting regarding the proposed sidewalk on Meadowview? Mayor Skiptunas met with Pat Nicoletta and walked the area to see if a sidewalk was feasible and how it would work. He stated that the initial drawings may have been adequate before Mr. Bellinger installed the retaining wall and discussed the issues of drainage in the area. The board will request a reassessment and new engineering of the area if funds are available closer to the end of the fiscal year.
- Asked Attorney Lenahan if he has had any luck getting the excess solar credits from National Grid applied to other statements? Attorney Lenahan has started working on this but does not have an update as of yet.
- Asked Attorney Lenahan if there has been an update to Joule Assets paying the sustainability grant? Attorney Lenahan states Joule has said that there will be an initial payment in October, but their attorney has not been forthcoming with information regarding how much the payment will be. He is continuing to press this and will be prepared to take legal action if necessary.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Smith and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to adjourn the meeting at 9:30pm. Motion passed unanimously.