

Village of Lima Board Meeting

June 8th, 2021

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

Others Present: Elissa Sackett, Clerk; Ben Luft, DPW Supervisor; Jane Radomski, Deputy Clerk; Matthew Lenahan, Attorney; Tony Tondryk, T&L Paving; Resident Callie Rabe.

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order by Mayor Skiptunas at 7pm Tuesday, June 8th, 2021 and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Smith to approve meeting minutes from May 25th, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

Guests

Tony Tondryk – T&L Paving

Mr. Tondryk was present to discuss the paving at the old Save-A-Lot parking lot. He is asking whether the Village owned parcel by the hair salon will be paved, or if it will be greenspace. If the Village were to pave the parcel, it would cost roughly \$10k to repair and resurface. If the Village were to choose to make it a greenspace, the Village would be losing their parking spots but it would cost closer to \$6k to complete. Mr. Tondryk passed around a map showing the parcel in question and the proposed area. Trustee Petraitis noted that if the parcel became a greenspace, it would cause the current owner to lose a couple of parking spots as the spots would be blocked in. Mayor Skiptunas asked that Deputy Mayor Wadach and Trustee Smith visit the area in question and to come up with a comprehensive plan for this spot.

Callie Rabe

Ms. Rabe was present to discuss her concerns regarding water usage in the upcoming months and using a pool meter. Ms. Rabe discussed in past years she was able to rent out a pool meter for the summer for watering her garden (5 large gardens) as her usage would make her sewer bill skyrocket. The Board stated they understood her concerns and stated that with the current way of billing she should not fall in the threshold that would put her in a specific tier due to her water usage. Deputy Mayor Wadach said that we would analyze her usage and then be in contact with a solution that suited her best. Ms. Rabe was very thankful for the input. She briefly asked about when her driveway would be under construction as she had a few concerns about being able to have access to her driveway (property part of sidewalk project). Mr. Luft said that the contractors are finishing College St. and should be headed her way soon and they will knock on her door before they dig up the end of her driveway. Ms. Rabe stated that she was very thankful for the sidewalk coming in as she lives in a very high pedestrian area and this will be very beneficial to individuals walking.

Department Reports

Steve McGrath – Fire Chief

Chief McGrath stated that everything is going well at the fire department. He stated officers are stepping up and being more active in the operations. Mayor Skiptunas asked if there were more response to calls to which he stated it was about the same. Mr. Luft stated that he has heard from several members that there is a more open/clearer communication with the new leadership. Trustee Petraitis asked Chief McGrath about the fire whistle and if it is necessary as he has heard chatter on social media about the whistle going off in the middle of the night. Chief McGrath stated that this has been a topic of conversations for many years and the fire whistle is a two-fold operation. It alerts active members that there is a call, and it lets residents know that there is an emergency and the fire department is there for them and to be on the lookout for emergency personnel coming through. Trustee Smith asked Chief McGrath about utilizing the back parking lot for the BBQ Cookoff during the Lima Crossroads Festival; they will get together to discuss location, etc.

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Mike Finucane (Captain) & Meg Rose (Chief) – Lima Ambulance

Chief Rose was present to introduce herself to the Board and provide her contact information. The Board congratulated her on her recent appointment as Chief. Captain Finucane and Chief Rose discussed the most recent Ambulance Report. The Board asked if there were more individuals expressing interest in becoming a member of the Ambulance to which Chief Rose explained that part of their strategic plan for this upcoming year is to recruit volunteers and to have the current volunteers be more active. Chief Rose explained that they are looking to possibly connect with the local colleges to hold events. The Board discussed items that the Ambulance may be in need of, or things to keep current volunteers busy while they are at the base waiting for calls.

Charlie Floeser – CEO

CEO Floeser passed around/discussed his report. He stated he has written a letter to the owner of the property on McDonald Dr. about the condition of the property and if nothing is done then the Village will pursue legal action. He discussed a current issue with residents on College St. in relation to a barn. The resident has been informed that they would need to go to the Zoning Board in order to proceed. He also discussed an issue with a resident on Ziegler and his lawn not being mowed. Deputy Clerk Radomski and her husband visited the residents' home and it appears the lawnmower needs to be repaired. The owner informed Deputy Clerk Radomski that he did have someone coming to pick up the lawnmower and replace what was necessary. Discussion was held about the permits Family Dollar had and Attorney Lenahan stated he read CEO Floeser's permits as all had been issued.

WWTP Operator – Brian Crye (Absent)

The Board reviewed the report provided by Mr. Crye. Said report stated that the WWTP was in 100% compliance with DEC regulations and requirements. It also gave an update on the status of the WWTP upgrades, stating that shoring was delivered, digging has begun and the bypass was open at the aeration tank. Mr. Crye has also given notice that he will be leaving the Village. His last day of employment is July 23rd.

DPW – Ben Luft

Mr. Luft started by giving updates to the water projects. He stated that the waterline project to East Avon is about to be closed out. We should be receiving the final bill to pay out to Blue Heron. He also stated the water tower is completed and he will be doing a walk through and punch list in the next two weeks. The 15A project will be starting soon; we are just waiting for proof of insurance. Mr. Luft would like to set up a preconstruction meeting for the week of the 21st and asked Mayor Skiptunas of his availability so he can coordinate properly. Mr. Luft asked how many easements were left. Attorney Lenahan stated that there were only a couple left, but he has contact with everyone and is confident that all should be collected by our next board meeting.

Mr. Luft discussed the sidewalk project. Every day there are more issues that are coming up and he is getting more questions than answers. Currently there are issues with about 5 homes on Dalton Rd. due to ditches in front of their homes. There are issues with elevation on College St. and a lot of options are restricted due to the highway boundary. If these areas/issues need to be redone by the engineer, then it is going to be a cost to the Village. Clerk Sackett stated that any engineering costs will not be eligible for reimbursement as the Village has already exhausted that budget. Mr. Luft said that the DPW crew is spending a lot of time on topsoil and it will be an ongoing, labor intensive job for the summer. He also said that he is still trying to figure out what to do on the roadside of the sidewalk on Dalton. It is a narrow strip and he is not sure if grass will work and if it is filled with millings or stone dust, it will just wash away. He stated it is a work in progress.

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Dan Marcellus – SkyPort IT

Mr. Marcellus was present to discuss training policies and cyber security policies and who would need the required training. He also discussed a data retention policy and those emails should be functional for all regarding records retention. Mr. Marcellus also stated that any emails from the Village should not be used within personal email and Attorney Lenahan stated that if emails are sent to personal then they are Freedom of Information Act. Mr. Marcellus discussed the Village looking into utilizing either Office 365 or Google for email so there is a better retention period for them. Mr. Marcellus will email quotes for both services for the Village to review against the current budget.

Mr. Marcellus discussed changes for the internet at the Pumphouse and at the WWTP. Clerk Sackett will reach out to Frontier to get a quote on the cost of switching to DSL from Time Warner. Mr. Luft stated his concerns and anted to ensure that he will not lose his cameras. Mr. Marcellus stated that DLS will be reliable and that it will save the Village money by completing the switch. Mr. Marcellus stated that he still needs to talk to the Fire Department about switching to the Ooma phone.

Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett

Clerk Sackett stated that she read the email regarding the Village collecting donations for the Paula Tubbs Memorial Garden and asked that the Parks Commission and Deputy Mayor Wadach make sure that the family is aware that if the Village accepts these funds that we will have to pay the invoices for the items the family wishes to purchase. Deputy Mayor Wadach stated that he did discuss this with the family ahead of time.

Clerk Sackett discussed the transition from having EFPR Solutions complete our bookwork to completing in house. She stated that although we would like to move forward, she has concerns about cutting them off until after the AUD is filed. She stated that is required to have a single audit completed, it may be best to keep them on to help with the audit. The Board requested that she discuss with EFPR the concerns and ask about having them complete the AUD and what a consulting fee would be.

Lastly, several invoices were available to the board for review/approval. Totals from each fund are the following:

- Ambulance Fund: \$3588.90
- General Fund: \$25739.20
- Sewer Fund: \$16126.72
- Water Fund: \$5922.24
- Grand Total: \$51377.06

Motion

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

Business

NYSERDA Energy – Deputy Mayor Wadach stated that if the Village were to host a class for the NY Stretch Energy Code, the Village could receive more points towards the grant. He asked if there is a date in the fall that the Ambulance room could be reserved to host such event. Trustee Fleming stated she will check on dates that the room is available.

Mayor Skiptunas stated he had some concerns about the NY Stretch Energy Code that the Village adopted. He has done some research and residents who wish to build in the Village, or who have a tragedy such as their home burning down would now have to follow this code. He is concerned that insurances will not cover the necessary materials to comply with the code, and had concerns about who will be completing the necessary checks on these homes as our Code Enforcement Officer is not certified.

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Community Choice Aggregate Update – Deputy mayor Wadach stated that the bids came in and award had gone to Constellation, for a term of 24 months, with 100% NYS Renewable as the default option, at a fixed rate of \$0.05912/kWh for Residential and \$0.05934/kWh for Commercial. The Village will also offer a Standard Supply option at \$0.04960/kWh for Residential and \$0.05934/kWh for Commercial. This is a little above the threshold that had been presented by Mr. Frevert, but that was using a base that National Grid delivery cost would not increase. Attorney Lenahan stated that he had some questions and concerns regarding the contract and would like to speak with Glenn Weinberg once the final contract was received. Concerns include a clause stating that Constellation can “spam” residents with documentation and that savings are thin and not guaranteed. Next steps will include letters being mailed to residents informing them of the choice made by the Village and what necessary steps they need to do to choose which program they want to opt into or how to opt out.

Roundtable Discussion

Deputy Mayor Wadach gave some updates at Mark Tubbs Park. He stated that the light in the women’s room needed to be replaced, the dog park grass has been replanted and that work has been completed on the horseshoe pit at the park. He stated that it was apparent that someone has used Round-Up around the baseball field at the park and asked Attorney Lenahan to please send a reminder letter stating that chemicals are not to be used on the field. Lastly, he stated to Mr. Luft that he would be help provide any services as need to the crew.

Trustee Fleming stated that she has received all her information and will be talking to the Schenkel’s about the zoning of their property. Mr. Luft said he would give Trustee Fleming all the necessary contact information for them.

Trustee Smith stated that he has been doing a lot of research on the Cannabis legalization for the joint meeting on the 16th. Mayor Skiptunas said cannabis was one of the workshop topics at the upcoming NYCOM Conference that he would be attending.

Motion to enter Executive Session was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Petraitis at 10:30pm to discuss personnel matters. Motion to end executive session was made at 11:10 pm. Meeting adjourned at end of executive session.