

Village of Lima Board Meeting

August 10, 2021

Present: John Skiptunas, Mayor; John Wadach, Deputy Mayor; Trustees, Josh Petraitis, Brian Smith (arrived at 7:30pm) and Carolyn Fleming.

Others Present: Matthew Lenahan, Attorney; Jane Radomski, Deputy Clerk; Ben Luft, DPW Supervisor; Mike Finucane, Captain Lima Ambulance; Steve McGrath, Fire Chief; Larry Teta, WWTP Operator; Joanne Magar, Homeowner; Mark Magar; Marty Zopson, Homeowner; Richard Dean, Homeowner; Cindy DePuy, Homeowner

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order by Mayor Skiptunas at 7pm Tuesday, August 10, 2021, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion

A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to approve meeting minutes from July 27th, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

Steve McGrath – Fire Chief

Fire Chief McGrath reported the Fire Department has been very busy, but everything is running very smoothly. Mr. McGrath stated that there were some issues with one of the trucks, however; the issue has been taken care of and the truck is back in service. Mr. McGrath reported how much help he had with heavy rains and flooding from neighboring Fire Departments and how much appreciated the shared community help. Deputy Mayor Wadach inquired on the number of iPads the Fire Department had and if all were being utilized. Mr. McGrath assured the Board that that was the case. Deputy Mayor Wadach also inquired as to how the air conditioning was performing. Mr. McGrath stated that the central air was performing as expected and keeping everything very cool. Mayor Skiptunas thanked Fire Chief McGrath for continuing to maintain a positive relationship with Ms. Bean. Mayor Skiptunas inquired about the morale at the Fire Department. Mr. McGrath stated that morale is at a high due to more open lines of communication. Mr. McGrath attributes this high morale to the sharing of his philosophy on the proper way to run the Fire Department with his Jr. members. Mr. McGrath stated that his Jr. Members have duties and responsibilities, and they report to Mr. McGrath. In turn, Mr. McGrath reports to the Village of Lima Board of Trustees; therefore, keeping all lines of communication open. Mayor Skiptunas and the Board of Trustees expressed their appreciation and thanked Mr. McGrath for his continued service. Fire Chief McGrath expressed the wish to meet with the Village Board in September to discuss different options regarding the future of the Fire Department. Mayor Skiptunas will have Fire Chief McGrath added to the September agenda.

Larry Teta – Chief Operator of Sewer Plant

Chief Operator Teta was pleased to announce that the Wastewater Treatment Plant has completed another successful month of 100% compliance with NYSDEC regulations, requirements and limitations. Mr. Teta reported that heavy rain accumulations in July caused substantial infiltration of over 2 million Gallons. No bypass measures were used, and all flow was processed. Discussions were had regarding issues caused by the heavy accumulation of rain in

such a short period of days. Mr. Teta stated there are maintenance issues regarding the Turf Cat lawnmower. A quote of \$2367.17 was received and the decision to commence with repairs and maintenance was made. The UV/Aeration tank shell and channels were poured and finished with some piping installed for hydraulics and electric. It was reported that 66% of the new brick was installed around the secondary digester. A discussion was held regarding the past issues and problems of the secondary digester. Parts for the secondary digester are arriving and being stored inside Bay 2 at the plant for protection from the elements. Mr. Teta stated that it has become apparent to him that a Preventative O & M schedule needs to be implemented at the plant for fixed assets and equipment. A discussion ensued regarding a better way to track repairs and maintenance. Chief Operator Teta has been researching applicable models to be utilized by plant staff. Mayor Skiptunas thanked Chief Operator Teta for jumping in and moving ahead with improvements at the Sewer Plant.

Mike Finucane – Ambulance Captain

Mr. Finucane was pleased to announce that the Lima Ambulance had the highest number of calls (38) since last year. The Mayor and the Village Board applauded the Lima Ambulance's staff. A discussion was held regarding the high number of non-transport calls. Mr. Finucane explained that this was not unusual due to summer months and residents getting out and moving about more. Mr. Finucane informed the Board that a member is requesting that one of the rigs be used for out- of- the county parades. The Board voiced concerns regarding the distance away from base and that coverage is maintained here in Lima. Mr. Finucane also relayed that another member is interested in holding a recruitment event in September. Mayor Skiptunas suggested that along with a September event, perhaps the Ambulance could do something in participation with the Trunk & Treat event in October to boost recruitment. Deputy Mayor Wadach stated that in reviewing the Ambulances' Goals for next year he acknowledges membership as the biggest obstacle. A discussion was held, and ideas were discussed to boost membership. Mr. Finucane requested that an invoice from Napa regarding batteries for the ambulance not be paid. The batteries were not needed and will be returned. Mayor Skiptunas and the Village Board thanked Mr. Finucane for his continued service and dedication.

Guests

Joanne Magar – Homeowner

Ms. Magar expressed her deepest thanks to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Ben Luft and to family and friends during the recent flooding of her property on Buell Ave. Ms. Magar then introduced her son, Mark, who gave a brief history and overview of the situation. Mr. Magar stated that he feels the situation will only get worse from here on out due to the increasing frequency and severity of the weather conditions. Mr. Magar stated that although he is looking for a long-term solution, he recognizes results may not be immediate. Resident Marty Zopson and resident Richard Dean also presented their concerns of how their properties are affected. A lengthy discussion followed including different options to resolves this issue. Ben Luft stated the first step is to obtain a camera to look directly into the pipe to try to determine the exact issue. Several options were discussed pending the outcome. Deputy Mayor Wadach suggested having the Village Engineer, Pat Nicoletta, also investigate the matter to discuss options and present a quote on the best way to resolve this issue. Ben Luft will brief Mr. Nicoletta on the situation. Mayor Skiptunas and the Village Board thanked the Magar's and other residents for presenting

their concerns to the Board and their appreciation of patience in this matter.

Cindy Depuy – Homeowner

Ms. Depuy addressed the Village Board with her concerns regarding the Water Main Project and how it will affect her property. The current water main pipe is situated directly under a very large and beautiful Sycamore tree that provides many benefits to Ms. Depuy, including cooling her home and blocking the view of the water tower. The new water main pipe is scheduled to replace the old pipe in the same location; however, there is a strong possibility that the tree in question may need to be removed. Ms. Depuy would appreciate anything that could be done to save the tree. Ben Luft explained that only two options exist for replacing the water main. The first option is to tunnel under the tree at great expense and with no guaranty that the tree would survive. The second option is to go around the tree with hopes of not causing too much damage to the roots. A discussion was held in hopes of finding other alternatives. Deputy Mayor Wadach suggested Ms. Depuy contact Andy Britton for a referral for an arborist to give their opinion on the survival of the tree. Mr. Luft voiced his concerns of the tree eventually dying and causing harm to Ms. Depuy's home or the surrounding high wires. Mr. Luft recommends if there is substantial root during the excavation of the waterline that the tree should come down. Trustee Smith inquired as to whether Ms. Depuy would be willing to take on the after care of the tree. Ms. Depuy indicated she would. A suggestion was made that possibly an arborist would be willing to perform regular inspections of the tree. Ms. Depuy inquired about the timing of this project and the Board agreed to provide updates to Ms. Depuy as soon as available. The Mayor and the Village Board thanked Ms. Depuy for presenting to the Board and assured her that everything that can be done will be done to save the Sycamore tree.

Ben Luft – DPW Supervisor

Mr. Luft reported that despite running into three services or unmarked services, the Water Project is moving along – averaging roughly 300 feet per day. The project started at the Crossroad Apartments and is now completed as far as Seneca Ave. There are only six residents left to determine whether they have copper or galvanized lines. Mr. Luft also reported that nine Chestnut trees on Lake Ave. were cut down. The trees were hindering the Water Project. National Grid volunteered to cut the trees at no cost to the Village. Mr. Luft has a meeting next week to discuss the timeline and review updates on the project. Mr. Luft reported that the generator at the pumphouse is back up and running. The problem had been with a sensor and the radiator and cooling system. Mr. Luft discussed the progress made at the Serenity Garden in the park. Based on Mr. Luft's observations the size of the garden was increased to accommodate the number of plants. The garden has been dugout, the base put in along with the requested pea gravel on top. The stones are on site and volunteers have begun to build the wall around the garden. Trustee Smith applauded Mr. Luft and his staff on a job well done. Trustee Smith appreciated all of Mr. Lufts' hard work and forethought of increasing the size of the garden. As for the Sidewalk Project, Mr. Luft reported that his crew is caught up on all the topsoil, except a few areas where driveways meet intersections. The Village crew cut down the big pine tree on Michigan Ave., again saving the Village extra cost. Nardozzi Construction plan to be back in September for more sidewalk work. The blacktop is coming along slowly. Mr. Luft discussed his concerns regarding the sidewalks on Elm St. and the percentage of slope on the driveways. He will meet with Erdmann Anthony Engineers Roger O'Toole or Paul Presutti to discuss this issue. Mr. Luft informed the Board that the streetlights are finished. Mr. Luft is in the process of

scheduling training with Nate Durie (Project Manager), the Village Clerk, and Mayor Skiptunas. The replacement of the pole on Hogan St., caused by a storm, is completed. The Mayor and the Village Board thanked Mr. Luft for his continued hard work and dedication.

Jane Radomski – Deputy Clerk

Deputy Clerk Radomski reported that 2nd notices for the 2021 Village Taxes were mailed. Clerk Sackett attended a second webinar regarding ARPA training on the use of Covid relief monies. The Board is welcome to attend these webinars by logging into their NYCOM accounts. Ms. Radomski reminded the Board that the fall newsletter is going out in September, and they should contact Clerk Sackett of pertinent information to be included. A discussion followed regarding information to be provided in the newsletter. Mr. Luft stated that old fire hydrants were being replaced with new hydrants. Trustee Smith requested two old hydrants to be placed in the dog park. HomeTown Hero Banners are up in Honeoye Falls, Lima and Mendon. There will be a ceremony on September 11th, 2021, in Honeoye Falls. The Mayor and Village Board are invited and encouraged to attend the ceremony at 8:30am in front of the Veteran's Memorial. Mayor Skiptunas informed the Board that he had been invited to speak at the event but is unable to do so because of prior commitments. Mr. Luft reported that he donated flags for the event. Ms. Radomski reminded the Board that a date is needed for the Joint Board meeting (with the Town) in September.

Motion

A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Smith to set September 28th, 2021, at 6:00pm as the next joint board meeting between the Village and Town. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Skiptunas asked that Clerk Sackett confirm the time and date with the Town. Deputy Mayor Wadach had questions regarding several invoices. Mr. Wadach will follow up with Clerk Sackett. Mr. Wadach would also like Clerk Sackett to contact Dan Marcellus regarding any improvements that can be made with the telephone system.

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

- General Fund: \$148,313.84
- Ambulance Fund: \$2031.99
- Water Fund: \$2095.07
- Sewer Fund: \$8365.27
- Capital Water: \$282,968.78
- Capital Sewer: \$192,077.17
- Grand Total: \$635,852.12

Motion

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

New Business

Trustee Fleming presented the Board with an invoice regarding the freezing of a water line for the Lima Presbyterian Church. There was a leak discovered while the Church was having a new

boiler installed. Trustee Fleming spoke with Mr. Luft, and it was decided the best course of action was to have the line frozen and the Church and the Village would split the cost.

Motion

A motion was made by Mayor Skiptunas and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Wadach to pay the receipt of splitting the cost of service for freezing the water line.

Round Table Discussion

Mayor Skiptunas presented the Board with a letter he received from the Lima Library Board of Trustees. The Lima Library Board of Trustees are requesting a cross walk be placed on Genesee Street from the village sidewalk to the library sidewalk. A discussion followed regarding issues and obstacles the Village would be facing if they were to agree to the request. A decision was made to place this item on the agenda for the Joint Village and Town Board Meeting.

An agreement between Verizon and the Village was presented to Mayor Skiptunas. The agreement relates to the new equipment that Verizon wishes to mount on the water tower. Verizon has a report from their structural engineer maintaining that everything meets specifications. However, Pat Nicolleta has some concerns relating to dissimilar metals and is investigating. Matthew Lenahan, Attorney, asked for a resolution granting Mayor Skiptunas authority to sign the agreement letter with Verizon once Mr. Nicolleta's grants approval.

Motion

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to enable Mayor Skiptunas to approve and sign the Verizon agreement subject to Mr. Nicoletta's approval. The motion passed unanimously

Mayor Skiptunas reported that he is meeting with Mr. Falk regarding the Ambulance and Fire Departments' contracts. The initial proposal is to boost the budget by 6%.

Deputy Mayor Wadach suggested that perhaps the funds from the Covid relief could be used to improve the situation of the storm water on Buell Ave.

Trustee Smith discussed the Parks Commission and their readiness to revise their master plan. Some of the following are issues they expect to cover: grants, drawings, handicap access, trails surrounding the park and new bathrooms. Trustee Smith reported that the Crossroad Festival was the most successful to date. Reviews from the festival were 98% positive. Trustee Smith revisited the topic of marijuana dispensaries in the Village. A discussion followed and a decision to place this topic on the agenda for the Joint Village and Town meeting was made. Matthew Lenahan, Attorney, advised the Board to include the Planning Board and the Zoning Board.

Trustee Petraitis reported his concerns regarding the huge beehive nest in the park. Mr. Luft reported he had already managed the situation and the hornets and nest are gone.

Deputy Mayor Wadach reported that he attended a Rocricity zoom meeting on August 3rd, 2021.

Mr. Wadach was extremely impressed by the simplicity of explanation during this recorded meeting and suggested the Board listen to the recording. Mr. Wadach stated that this month alone, National Grid was charging 6.3 cents/kWh, whereas Roctricity was only charging 5.9 cents/kWh. Thus, showing Roctricity is providing a savings for their customers.

Deputy Mayor Wadach reported the Village has received \$5000 for the NY Stretch Grant. A discussion ensued regarding options for spending the grant. Mr. Wadach suggested researching another electric charging station. Deputy Mayor Wadach discussed steps that were still needed regarding the NYSEDA grant. Mr. Wadach reported that by the end of the year, he hopes the Village will have another \$100,000 to be used at their discretion. Mr. Wadach received notification that the Village of Lima received an award of \$664,960 for fiber optic internet. The award was from Northern Border Regional Commission, a 2021 State Economic & Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant award. This grant will help ensure fiber optics for the entire Village of Lima. The Village will be responsible to match 20% of the award but some of this cost will be covered through the leasing agreement with Empire Access. Some of the Federal funds the Village received could also be used for the 20% match.

Mayor Skiptunas had the pleasure of meeting with Jason Melino, Executor Director from Livingston Co. Water Authority. Mr. Skiptunas explained how the policies of the Water Authority have changed regarding the Water Authority and the municipalities taking over the water systems. The old policies stated restrictions and requirements that the municipalities needed to conform with. The new policies state that the Water Authority will assume any debt we have already incurred, and they will provide free training. The Water Authority will combine the Town and Village and cut costs by 60%. Mr. Luft stated that the village could not survive without the revenue we now receive from our water/sewer. A discussion ensued. One option discussed was whether the Village could buy the water wholesale. Further investigation is needed on this issue.

Motion

A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Smith to adjourn and enter Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. 9:55pm