

Village of Lima Board Meeting

August 9th, 2022

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

Others Present: Matthew Lenahan, Attorney; Elissa Sackett, Clerk; Ben Luft, DPW Supervisor; Charlie Floeser, Code Enforcement Office; Steve McGrath, Fire Chief; Meg Rose, Ambulance Chief; Richard Garey, Lima Fire Department; Residents Eric Baker, Tim Depew, Mallory Depew, Bill Stremovihts, Bonnie Wadach, Elaine Walker, George Gotcsik, Fran Gotcsik, Callie Rabe.

Absent: Trustee Brian Smith; Larry Teta, WWTP Operator.

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order by Mayor Skiptunas at 7pm Tuesday, August 9th, 2022 at Lima Town Hall, 7329 E. Main St. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to approve meeting minutes from July 26th, 2022. Motion passed unanimously.

Department Reports

Fire Department – Steve McGrath, Fire Chief

Chief McGrath stated that the roof on the fire department building is almost completed. The hatch needs to be finished and additional gutter work is necessary. Deputy Mayor Wadach asked to please provide the Kirkwood fuel delivery tickets with the invoices. Mr. Luft said he will touch base with the Town Highway Superintendent regarding this matter as the fire department tank is at the Town Barns.

Ambulance – Meg Rose, Ambulance Chief

The Ambulance report was passed around for the board to review. Chief Rose stated she would like to offer Junior Memberships at the ambulance. She has approximately 4 individuals who have expressed interest in volunteering and there are other areas that the teens could help in until they are old enough to be volunteers for calls. She will discuss details with Rich Garey from the fire department as they already have an established Junior Membership. She will also discuss this proposal with Attorney Lenahan.

Chief Rose stated that she would like to start a pediatric loan closet at the base. Lima Ambulance already has a medical loan closet with enough space to house the pediatric equipment. She did state that she would like to open the pediatric loan closet to all of Livingston County.

Chief Rose stated that the change card has taken place. Livingston County EMS will now be first call for Advanced Life Support calls and Honeoye Falls – Mendon Ambulance will be second. Discussions were held regarding the Spectrum bill at the Ambulance Base and possibly canceling Spectrum TV and switching to a streaming service to save money.

WWTP – Larry Teta (Absent)

The Sewer Plant report was passed around for the Board to review.

Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) – Charlie Floeser

CEO Floeser's report was passed around for the board to review. Mr. Floeser gave a brief overview of his report, discussing the various permits that have been issued. He stated the owners of the property at 7119 High St. have been working on the home without a permit. The board requested a Stop Work Order be placed on the home until the homeowner applies for and receives the necessary permits.

DPW – Ben Luft

Contractors continue to finish the punch list items for the water project. The trees have been ordered but will not be installed until September. The trees are the last big-ticket item on the project.

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Mr. Luft discussed meeting with National Grid regarding replacing the existing T-8 lights at the shop with LED lights. Last time National Grid surveyed the lights, the cost to replace was an 80/20 split. The current program is basing cost on usage. Representatives from National Grid have walked through the shop and he will have an update next meeting regarding costs to replace.

Mr. Luft discussed jobs completed by the DPW crew. Concrete sidewalk work has been completed along East Main St. There is additional concrete work to be done and the crew will continue to work as time permits. The crew changed out a hydrant on College St. by Dalton Rd. This was a big project as the old one was from 1960 and the main valve did not work. The hydrant has been replaced along with the valve.

Mr. Luft discussed purchasing a new leaf machine this year. The current leaf machine was purchased around 1998, so it is almost 25 years old and starting to show signs of age. He stated a new tractor will also need to be purchased, and he is starting to get numbers in for the total costs of a tractor, leaf machine and attachments. There is money in the street reserves to cover the purchase. Once he receives a cost estimate from Cimcon he will review it with the board. Mr. Luft also stated the next big purchase would be a new backhoe which will be within the next two years.

Deputy Mayor Wadach asked Mr. Luft if he could look at the bush growing out of the stump in front of 1796 Rochester St. He also asked Mr. Luft how the study at the East Avon vault was going. Mr. Luft explained that the pressure gauges are lower than thought, but elevation is an issue for the vault. He stated the best course of action is to continue to monitor for the time being as there have been discussions that the water tower in East Avon may be upgraded and that could change the water pressure. If need be, the vault is still able to be open and closed manually. Discussions were also held regarding the water vault pipe at the pumphouse on Rochester St. It is going to cost approximately \$250k to replace the pipe, but that is continued to be monitored as well.

Trustee Petraitis and Mayor Skiptunas discussed several bees' nests at the park. Mr. Luft said the park was sprayed this year, but since it is an open-air park, a few nests are inevitable. He has been spraying the nests at the park, but will contact to have them sprayed/removed by a professional service if necessary. Trustee Petraitis also mentioned that the gutters on the pavilion are in need of replacement.

Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett

Clerk Sackett stated the Village has received the second half of the ARPA funds. These funds have been set aside and will be used to pay down the remainder of the Village match for the sidewalk project, along with the remaining funds from the Department of Transportation.

Clerk Sackett gave updates on some housekeeping items. She stated second notices have been mailed to all remaining residents who have not paid their Village taxes. Currently there are only 44 parcels that are unpaid. Collection continues through September 30th. She discussed an issue with tax bill for Danny House – 7160 College St. Mr. House has requested that the re-levied water and sewer charges be removed from their tax bill. Clerk Sackett explained that the water had been shut off at the property for some time and there is no plumbing at the parcel. The owners were being billed the base rate in error when there was no usage at the house and the water has been turned off at the street. Advertisements have been made for the public hearing on September 27th regarding Airbnb's in the community; notices have been placed in the water bills as well. The Village meeting on August 23rd will need to be held upstairs as there is an election this date in the board room. Lastly, it is the Village's turn to host the quarterly joint board meeting. It was decided to host the meeting on September 13th at 6:30pm. Clerk Sackett will verify with the Town that this date works for them.

Motion

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Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to remove the re-levied water and sewer charges from the tax bill for Danny House, 7160 College St. Motion passed unanimously.

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

- Ambulance Fund: \$2351.58
- General Fund: \$108622.05
- Sewer Fund: \$9492.27
- Water Fund: \$2603.50
- Capital Water: \$163.00
- Capital Sewer: \$288557.87
- Grand Total: \$411790.27

Motion

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

Public Hearing regarding the proposed Water and Sewer Rate Increases was opened at 7:17pm. Mayor Skiptunas asked if there were any questions from the guests present regarding said rate increases. Hearing will stay open for approximately 30 minutes.

- Resident, Eric Baker asked what the proposed rate changes would be. Mr. Luft stated the following:
 - Inside Water – \$11 Base charge, \$6 per 1000 gallons
 - Inside Sewer – \$18 Base charge, \$7 per 1000 gallons
 - Outside Water – \$12.25 Base charge, \$8.40 per 1000 gallons
 - Outside Sewer - \$19.70 Base charge, \$7.60 per 1000 gallons
 - Flat Rate remains \$36.66 per unit

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to close the Public Hearing at 8:50pm regarding the proposed water and sewer rate increases. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to adopt the new water and sewer rate increases, effective the September 1st, 2022 billing cycle. Motion passed unanimously.

Guests

Several residents were present to voice concerns regarding a particular vendor and their merchandise displayed at the Crossroads Festival. Questions arose as to the Village's involvement in the festival, who appoints individuals to the Crossroads Council, who approves vendors for the festival, and if the Presbyterian Church has any say as to the approved vendors as the vendors are on their lawn. Mayor Skiptunas explained that the Crossroads Council consists of volunteers throughout the Lima Community who donate their time to making the festival a success. The Council reaches out to the Village to request lifting Village ordinances, such as extending quiet hours from 10pm to 11pm, and lifting the open container law within a designated area in the Village. Neither the church nor Village partake in vetting any of the vendors for the festival, however there has never been a situation in the past that has warranted Village involvement. Mayor Skiptunas stated that there is an upcoming Crossroads Council Meeting and informed the residents that they are welcome to attend and express their concerns to the Council. Mayor Skiptunas will get the necessary information and pass it along.

Old Business

Intermunicipal Agreement between Village and Town/LCWSA – Mayor Skiptunas, Attorney Lenahan and Mr. Luft have met several times with representatives from the Town of Lima and Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority (LCWSA) regarding the creation of an agreement for water services, as

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LCWSA has assumed responsibility for the Town of Lima's various water districts, including district 2 and district 4 which are operationally interconnected with the Village water system through supply lines and the pumping facility on Rochester St. Mr. Luft explained that LCWSA would be conducting a leak detection survey that would include the Village and the initial cost would be free. Deputy Mayor Wadach stated that he believed that Exhibit 2 should be removed and discussion should be held again regarding calculating losses once the initial leak detection survey is completed. The board agreed that Exhibit 2 be removed from the agreement, and wording be changed to review leak detection and then based on the location, losses could be calculated. Attorney Lenahan will work on updating the document and discuss further with LCWSA.

Agreement Between Village and LivCo to pay the Local Match of the Fiber Optic Grant – Attorney Lenahan stated all amendments to the contract have been approved by Livingston County. The Village will need to provide proof of insurance and list Livingston County as an additional insured.

Motion

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Wadach and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to authorize Mayor Skiptunas to sign the contract between the Village and Livingston County in regards to the county paying the local match for the Fiber Optic Project. Motion passed unanimously.

Shanks Easement Agreement – Attorney Lenahan stated that he has reviewed the language in the permanent easement agreement with Shanks, and he would like to have wording written in stating that Shanks will be responsible for maintaining the driveway. Agreement will be tabled to 8/23 meeting.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to authorize Mayor Skiptunas to sign the Permanent Easement Agreement between the Village of Lima and Shanks Enterprises once approved by the Village Attorney. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Fire and Ambulance Costs to Town for 2023 – The board discussed the costs of the fire and ambulance contracts for the Town for 2023, as the Town is currently working on their budget for the next fiscal year. Upgrades have been made to the oxygen system at the Ambulance base, and with the cost of inflation, the board agreed to request an increase to the current contract from \$110k to \$113k for fire and ambulance services to the Town. Mayor Skiptunas will discuss this with Supervisor Falk.

Short Term Rental Guidelines – Tabled to 8/23 meeting.

Roundtable Discussion

Mayor Skiptunas discussed the following:

- Received a “thank you” from Livingston County for the mural fest.
- Mayor Skiptunas and Deputy Mayor Wadach will be meeting with the three finalists for the Engineering part of the Fiber Optic Project. Once interviewed, a selection will be made and the candidate will be discussed at the board meeting on August 23rd. The goal is to approve the chosen Engineering firm and execute a contract so work can begin.

Motion

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to authorize Mayor Skiptunas and Deputy Mayor Wadach to make a decision on an Engineering firm after interviews have been conducted. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Petraitis discussed the following:

- Park

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- Fence has been ordered for the dog park and should be delivered the 1st week of September. Goal is to have the fence installed by the 1st week in October.
- Trustee Smith (absent) had received a phone call about a donation for a senior center at the park. The donation is very significant and more discussion is being held regarding this.

Trustee Fleming stated she has been approached a couple times about residents asking about adding apartments onto their parcels. She asked if this is a topic we will discuss again; plan is to continue to discuss in the future.

Deputy Mayor Wadach discussed the following:

- The Request for Proposal (RFP) for tree planting has been approved by Joule Community Energy and published. Once the RFP has expired and proposals have been received, the Shade Tree Committee will review/discuss the submitted proposals.
- NY Forward Grant – The intent to submit a proposal has been submitted.
- NYSERDA Grant – Deputy Mayor Wadach discussed having a meeting with NYSERDA discussing his concerns regarding all the upgrades the Village has completed and not being eligible to receive funds to go towards those projects, but also submitting projects and not having them be approved.

Attorney Lenahan stated the sign code has been presented to the Planning Board for review. The board has more suggestions regarding the code. He will provide said suggestions to the board once received.

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to adjourn meeting at 9:20pm. Motion passed unanimously.