

Village of Lima Board Meeting Minutes
January 9th, 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 McGrath, Fire Chief; Meg Rose, Ambulance Chief; Charlie Floeser, CEO; David Sansone.

Absent: Larry Teta, WWTP Operator.

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order by Mayor Skiptunas at 7pm Tuesday, January 9th, 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 Wadach to approve meeting minutes from December 12th, 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

Guests

David Sansone – Mr. Sansone was present to request that the Village Board meetings be available online for residents to view. He passed around a list of neighboring municipalities that currently stream their board meetings and post to platforms such as YouTube. Mayor Skiptunas will research and discuss with Supervisor Falk on potential cost sharing of equipment.

Department Reports

Fire Department – Steve McGrath, Fire Chief

The ladder truck has been repaired and returned back to the fire department. All invoices have not been received as of the meeting date, but Chief McGrath anticipates the bill to be approximately \$9500. Chief McGrath also said there is an issue with the heating system in the fire house bay which will result in \$4k in repairs. Mr. Luft suggested that since there are five other units that are still working, the repairs wait until the next fiscal year. The board also suggested looking into energy efficient credits for upgraded heating systems. More research will be completed.

New Member applicant, Elisabeth Kenny, was passed around for the board to review. Ms. Kenny's father, Ryan Kenny, is a volunteer member and she has been approved by the Lima Fire Department.

Motion

Motion made by Trustee Wadach and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to approve Elisabeth Kenny as a new member of the Lima Volunteer Fire Department, contingent on the results of the background check. Motion passed unanimously.

Lastly, Chief McGrath notified the board that the pumper truck has a leak, and it may be time to look for a new truck. It was suggested to explore looking for grants for a new truck, and to start getting quotes for the pumper.

Ambulance – Meg Rose, Ambulance Chief

Chief Rose discussed both the ambulance monthly report and the ambulance end of year report. She stated that the Lima Ambulance responded to 92% of calls in 2023, which is a significant

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increase over the past years. She also explained that as the call volume is increasing, it is becoming increasingly difficult to ensure all calls are covered with the small number of volunteers, and that the current membership is not sustainable for the next 5 years.

Chief Rose also gave updates on the ambulance remount. The remount has again been pushed back which will result in not being able to utilize the loaner ambulance as Honeoye Falls wants to sell the rig. She is trying to put pressure on the company to get a date scheduled, and if that does not happen she will look at canceling the contract and looking for grants to purchase a new rig. The Lima Ambulance is also moving forward with becoming a 501c3 non-profit.

Lastly, a new applicant application for Christine Steerman was passed around for the board to review. Ms. Steerman has applied to be a driver with the Lima Ambulance and has been approved by Chief Rose.

Motion

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

WWTP – Larry Teta (Absent)

See report provided by Mr. Teta.

Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) – Charlie Floeser

CEO Floeser discussed his report and asked the board if there is anything additional they would like to review. The board questioned CEO Floeser on what the status of the caution tape outside the American Hotel is? He was unsure. Attorney Lenahan said the Hotel had been awarded a grant to fix the façade, but they have not received the funds yet. He agreed though if the façade is a hazard, it needs to be fixed.

The board asked for updates on the Dollar Tree sign. CEO Floeser stated last he knew the sign was being re-created to meet the sign requirements (update: sign has been installed). He was also questioned about the status of the old George Frances restaurant. CEO Floeser, along with members of the Planning board, Zoning board, Mayor Skiptunas and Supervisor Falk are meeting with the potential buyer of the property to discuss zoning issues and what the buyer would be able to do with the property as it is presently zoned residential. It was discussed creating a mixed-use district in that area.

DPW – Ben Luft

Mr. Luft reminded that winter is here and there is no overnight parking in non-designated areas or blocking sidewalks. There have been several issues where cars are parked along the streets, and it makes it hard for the DPW crew to clear the streets. He asked that CEO Floeser ticket cars if necessary.

The first set of letters have been sent to residents on Ziegler Drive for the lead and copper service line inventory. He has received three responses so far, and the inspection takes approximately 5 minutes to complete. Afterwards all the data is loaded into the GIS system, which is working really well.

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Mr. Luft is going to look at two tractors for the new leaf machine that are in Brockport. He will need to write out the specs and advertise for sealed bids in mid-February. Due to the cost of the tractor, the Village must advertise for the sealed bid. Mr. Luft stated the Village will only accept the bid and buy the tractor if it is good after a test drive and it fits the Village needs. If he cannot find a tractor that suits the Village needs, he will use the Town of Lima's old blue tractor for one more year if necessary.

The tree trimming has been completed at the property on Maplewood. Attorney Lenahan is in the process of completing the necessary paperwork to transfer ownership of the property from the Village to the homeowner on Maplewood. This will alleviate the Village of any further responsibility of the property.

Mr. Luft had a meeting and discussion with Pat Nicoletta about the sidewalk project on Meadowview. There are some concerns regarding a metal pipe that runs along the street about 5'-7' off the road. The issue with this pipe is this is where the sidewalk should be installed. Deputy Mayor Smith confirmed that the metal pipe is a drainage pipe that had been installed by the owners and runs down the length of the road. Mr. Luft will do some test digs to find out if the pipe is actually there and how deep it is. Afterwards, Mr. Nicoletta and another engineer from MRB Group will come out and evaluate the best location for the sidewalk. Mr. Luft stated that there may need to have additional culverts and catch basins installed which would increase the cost of the sidewalk.

Mr. Luft discussed several areas concerning water. He has had multiple conversations with Jason Molino (Executive Director, Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority) regarding the Water District 2 contract. Mr. Molino wishes to have another leak detection done for the area of District 2 to identify leak issues that he believes are in the area. After another leak detection study is completed, this will help achieve an agreed upon ownership and maintenance calculation for billing purposes. Mr. Molino did propose that the cost of the leak detection be split 50/50 between LCWSA and the Village. The board stated that the purpose of the last leak detection was to determine if there were any leaks in the main (there were none detected) and produce the o@m calculation. The board did not agree to the expenditure at this time.

Lastly, Mr. Luft discussed revisiting and evaluating the base charges regarding multi-family dwellings in the Village. All parcels are currently billed only one base charge as there is one meter per parcel. If each apartment/trailer were billed as a parcel, this would result in increased revenue without raising the rates. Clerk Sackett has information regarding the number of trailers/apartments within the Village and will work on revenue projections for increasing the base rates for multi-dwelling parcels.

Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett

Clerk Sackett passed around the tentative budget calendar provided by Bernard Donegan's office. She reminded the Village board that Village elections will be held Tuesday, March 19th and presented a resolution to Abolish Registration Day (see attached resolution). Lastly, she stated there is a joint Town and Village workshop meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 30th at 7:30pm at the Lima Town Hall to discuss one or more water projects in the Town of Lima.

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The purpose of the meeting is for the Village to listen and provide potential support for a project. Mr. Luft explained several scenarios that may be brought forward at the meeting. This workshop is open to the public and will also be attended by Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority.

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

- Ambulance Fund: \$3297.19
- General Fund: \$14892.75
- Sewer Fund: \$27261.85
- Water Fund: \$23212.47
- Capital Water: \$179.00
- Capital Sewer: \$581.75
- Capital Fiber: \$ -
- Grand Total: \$69425.01

Motion

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

Old Business

Joule Assets Lawsuit – The Village received the initial \$5000 payment in December from Joule Assets. Joule has promised to pay \$2000 per month until the balance owed is paid in full. Attorney Lenahan will send an email reminding payments are due by the last day of each month and the Village will continue to monitor payments are being received.

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 to discuss all outstanding debts owed to the Village. Follow-up will be provided at the February board meeting.

CEO Contract – Attorney Lenahan has reviewed the contract and stated it is fine to sign. Contract signed by Mayor Skiptunas.

Meadow View/Michigan Street Light Estimates – Clerk Sackett distributed the quote from NYPA to replace the 35w LED cobrahead with an 80w cobrahead on Michigan Ave. The board discussed the quote (\$651.26) and agreed to move forward, but to have the bulb changed at pole 7147 on Meadow View instead of pole 238 on Michigan Ave. Clerk Sackett will obtain an updated quote from NYPA with the corrected address for Mayor Skiptunas to sign.

Short Term Rental Law – Tabled to January 23rd board meeting.

Fiber Optic Update –

- **Phase 1 Bid Opening** – Clerk Sackett explained to the board that neither bid received for Phase 1 was compliant resulting in both bids being rejected. Empire is correcting the RFP to be more specific, and it is currently being reviewed. The new bid opening date will be January 23rd at 3:30pm so discussions can be held at the next board meeting.

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- **Update on Make Ready Phase 2** – Empire is still waiting for National Grid to address all the pre-existing conditions. Pat Phelan (Engineer) will continue to reach out for updates.
- **Progress on Phase 3 RFP Cable Installation** – Waiting for stamped documents to be returned by Hunt Engineering. Brendan Wagner will continue to work on this.

New Business

Emergency Response Review from Power Outage – Mayor Skiptunas thanked both Chief Rose and Chief McGrath for their assistance during the scheduled outage. Several residents utilized the warming shelter at the ambulance base. Mayor Skiptunas said that he will be working on creating a disaster recovery plan for future outages to assist board members. He also requested a better plan be designed by National Grid and a chain of command be followed.

DEC Tree Inventory Grant & Street Tree Policies – Trustee Wadach applied for a grant to complete a Tree Inventory in the Village. The grant was not approved at this time.

Round Table

Mayor Skiptunas

- Spoke with Senator Helming and requested her assistance with the SAM Grant.

Deputy Mayor Smith

- The EV Charging station is now levying a fee for use. Since the fees have gone into effect, the station has had an 80% reduction of idle time.
- The Solar Eclipse is less than 88 days away (April 8th). Discussed various events scheduled for the day.
- Reached out to the new Park's Commission Representatives for the Town of Lima. Still waiting to hear back. Asked Mr. Luft to hold off until the end of the month to change the code at the Dog Park.
- Deputy Mayor Smith and Trustee Petraitis have both reached out to Mike O'Brien regarding the potential donation of land to the park. Hope to schedule a meeting soon.

Trustee Fleming

- The Normal Restaurant had their liquor license revoked due to its proximity to the front doors of the Presbyterian Church. She is working with the church to draft a support letter stating they are in favor of the restaurant obtaining their license again.

A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Wadach to adjourn the meeting at 9:13pm. Motion passed unanimously.

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**Abolishing Registration Day
for March 2024 General Village Elections**

WHEREAS the Village will hold regular elections in the year 2024 on March 19th for the positions of:

- Village Trustee (2)
- Village Mayor

WHEREAS voters may register with the County Board of Elections ten (10) days prior to the Village Election to ensure eligibility,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lima abolishes Registration Day for said election and all that follow until which time this resolution is appealed.

A motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Fleming to approve Resolution Abolishing the Village Registration Day for the March 19th, 2024, General Village Election. The motion passed unanimously.