

## **Village of Lima Board Meeting**

October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Present:** Brian Smith, Deputy Mayor; Trustees Joshua Petraitis, John Wadach.

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

**Absent:** John Skiptunas, Mayor; Carolyn Fleming, Trustee; Larry Teta, WWTP Operator.

**Guests:** Steve Werner, Ron Blodgett, Barb Finucane.

The meeting of the Village of Lima was called to order by Deputy Mayor Smith at 7pm Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 Wadach to approve meeting minutes from September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Guests**

**Steve Werner** – Mr. Werner thanked everyone for their participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> Pumpkin Festival. After expenses have been paid, the festival raised approximately \$1500 for the park. Mr. Werner asked if the decorations could stay in the park for the time being so residents do not forget about the festival. An organizational meeting for the 2024 festival will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup>, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> festival will be held on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### **Department Reports**

#### **Fire Department – Steve McGrath, Fire Chief**

Chief McGrath asked about the discussion regarding volunteers outside the fire district? Clerk Sackett and Mr. Luft explained the discussion held at the last meeting regarding an article circulated from Supervisor Falk where legislation had been passed authorizing a local fire district to accept new volunteers outside of their jurisdiction as the district was having a hard time recruiting new members.

#### **Ambulance – Meg Rose, Ambulance Chief**

Chief Rose discussed the ambulance report for the month of August. She stated the ambulance she was planning to borrow while one of Lima's ambulances is being renovated unfortunately fell through; however, Livonia is looking to sell an ambulance that they have. The ambulance for sale at Livonia is actually one that Lima had sold to Livonia approximately 10 years ago. Chief Rose requested approval to possibly purchase the ambulance to have as a back-up while the remount is completed, and then once finished the ambulance could either be sold or be used for training. Deputy Mayor Smith asked Chief Rose to please find out what the Blue Book value was for the ambulance, and Attorney Lenahan asked if the ambulance needed to be repainted; it does not.

### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Wadach and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to authorize Mayor Skiptunas to approve the purchase of the ambulance for sale for an amount not to exceed \$5k. The ambulance must be in working condition and pass necessary Department of Health inspections. Motion passed unanimously.

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

### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Petraitis and seconded by Trustee Wadach to approve Austin Reese as a new member of the Lima Volunteer Ambulance. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Wadach stated the electrical usage again keeps climbing at the ambulance base. Chief Rose requested Trustee Wadach to research when the increase started so she can take a look on her end.

### **WWTP – Larry Teta (Absent)**

See report provided by Mr. Teta. Mr. Luft said the Department of Environmental Conservation inspection completed at the plant went well. The plant will continue to be a grade 2, which means no additional certifications are required of Mr. Luft and Mr. Teta to operate the plant.

### **Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) – Charlie Floeser**

CEO Floeser discussed his report. Trustee Wadach asked CEO Floeser if he had researched adequate costs of charging for fire marshal inspections. CEO Floeser stated he had emailed Attorney Jim Campbell (Town Attorney) regarding the subject and his findings; however, Attorney Campbell did not relay those findings to Attorney Lenahan.

The board asked CEO Floeser for a status update regarding the ramp located at 7168 West Main St. that is not up to code. Attorney Lenahan and CEO Floeser have had multiple meetings with the property owner, as well as the owner's attorney. The owner has stated the tenant needs to use the ramp to get out of the house should there be an emergency, so as a temporary solution the entrance where the ramp leads has been listed as "Exit Only" until a more permanent solution is identified. Medical personnel have been instructed to utilize the front door for all reports, as the entrance to the building is unlocked. Attorney Lenahan will continue to work with the property owners to come up with a permanent solution to the ramp.

### **DPW – Ben Luft**

The Village crew has started leaf collection. The new leaf machine is being utilized and modifications have been completed. There is some fine tuning that needs to be completed, but it seems to be working well.

Mr. Luft was notified that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Health (DOH) are having all water systems participate in a mandatory lead and copper service line inventory program. Every water service in the entire Village will need to be documented and cataloged. The service starts with the tap off the main and runs all the way to the line coming through the wall by the meter in the resident's home. Mr. Luft will work with Clerk Sackett to send out letters to homeowners coordinating a time to have a member of the Village crew inspect the service line in their basement. There are approximately 700 service lines that need to be inventoried throughout the Village.

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Mr. Luft also discussed an issue on Maplewood regarding trees. These trees are a unique situation as the Village owns approximately 20 ft. onto the resident in questions property. Mr. Luft discussed several possibilities for the property, such as deeding it back to the owner. Attorney Lenahan stated the Village cannot give the owner the property; it must be purchased at fair market value. Attorney Lenahan is going to research the deed to see if the Village does indeed own this property and will report the findings at a later date.

Lastly, Mr. Luft stated there is again an issue with the 8” meter in the vault by the Baptist school. The meter has stopped working and will need to be replaced. The meter is covered under warranty and should be taken care of within the next couple weeks.

### **Clerk Report – Elissa Sackett**

Clerk Sackett stated tax collection is now over. A total of 21 parcels were returned to Livingston County as unpaid in the amount of \$20538.80. These payments will be re-levied onto the 2024 Town and County taxes.

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

- Ambulance Fund: \$5438.27
- General Fund: \$8110.21
- Sewer Fund: \$2904.32
- Water Fund: \$1385.86
- Capital Water: \$1778.06
- Capital Sewer: \$0
- Capital Fiber: \$973.06
- Grand Total: \$20589.78

### ***Motion***

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

### **Old Business**

**Revised 2024 Fire and Ambulance Contracts** – The revised contracts were passed around and signed by the board. Contracts are for a 3-year term and reflect a 6% increase in 2024, 2% increase in 2025 and 2% increase in 2026 for the Town of Lima.

**Fiber Optic Project** – Clerk Sackett attended the update meeting with representatives from Empire Access. Pat Phelan, Engineer, stated the aerial applications are moving forward. Brendan Wagner, Project Manager, stated he had not yet received an update from Ryan Garrison (Engineer with Hunt Engineering) regarding a status update for the Request for Proposals (RFP). Clerk Sackett reached out to Mr. Garrison requesting an update before end of business; update was received prior to the meeting. Trustee Wadach will respond to Mr. Garrison.

**Short Term Rental Law** – No update.

### **New Business**

**No new business to report.**

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### Round Table

Trustee Wadach

- Submitted the NY Forward Grant on behalf of the Village.
- Asked Attorney Lenahan about the Confession of Judgement with Joule? Attorney Lenahan is diligently working on this. Joule Assets have not been responding in a timely manner.
- Stated Rob Beutner is still in the process of obtaining the software for the Village GIS program.

Trustee Petraitis

- The company installing the pavilion will be doing the concrete work as well at the park. The cost will be split 50/50 between the Town and Village.
- Received a quote from BEARS Playground for new equipment at the park. The quote came in around \$36k which includes free installation and shipping. The cost will be split between the Town and Village, and hopefully donations from the community.

#### ***Motion***

Motion was made by Trustee Wadach and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to approve the expenditure of up to \$20k from the Park Reserve to purchase playground equipment for the park. Motion passed unanimously. Clerk Sackett will advertise in the Sentinel.

Deputy Mayor Smith

- Discussed the possible donation of property on Elm St. to the park. Looking at utilizing this parcel as another entrance into the park and parking lot.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Smith and seconded by Trustee Petraitis to adjourn the meeting at 8:38pm. Motion passed unanimously.