

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING (VIRTUAL)
FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

Mayor Michael VandeVelde presiding

MEMBERS: Robert Cochran, Al Holbrook, Mike Catalano, Dennis Lutes,

OTHERS: Vincent Luce, Becki Paternosh, Chris Reese, Andrew Webster

MAYOR/BOARD

**RESOLUTION #2-2021/ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (AFG)
APPLICATION AND LOCAL MATCHING REQUIREMENT AUTHORIZATION**

The Fire Chief explained that through the AFG FEMA grant, there's a very slim opportunity for us to apply for a vehicle acquisition. Upon reviewing our equipment it made sense to try to replace the 1996 Engine 291 vehicle. A rough estimate cost of between \$625,000, with our responsibility being for 5% of that, comes out to be about \$31,250 that we would be responsible for. I wanted to ask for approval just in case we do get awarded. I think 15% of the allocated FEMA money is designated for vehicle acquisition. We are trying to get some funding for the fire department.

**The board made a motion to approve the following resolution on a motion made
by Trustee Holbrook, seconded by Trustee Catalano and was carried
unanimously.**

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief of the Fire Department of Westfield and its associated members have identified the need to replace the 1996 International Pumper known as Engine 291 or E291 and,

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for a replacement pumper that meets the same pump capacity and other requirements for the suppression of fire in the Village and the Town of Westfield is approximately \$625,000 and,

WHEREAS, the FY2020/21 AFG grant program requires a local cost share contribution of the total cost of the apparatus based on jurisdictional size, or a 5% (percent) local cost share or a total of \$31,250 in cash and,

WHEREAS, the Fire Department of Westfield and the Village of Westfield maintains a Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created to assist with capital equipment needs of the Fire Department of Westfield, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Westfield Village Board of Trustees does hereby authorize the Fire Chief of the Fire Department of Westfield to apply for a FY20/21 Assistance to Firefighters Grant in the amount of \$625,000 and understands that there is a 5% (percent) or \$31,250 local cash match requirement if awarded the grant and subsequently a new apparatus is approved for purchase by the Fire

Department after all required Village of Westfield Procurement Policy guidelines are followed.

RESOLUTION #3-2021 OF SUPPORT & AUTHORIZATION FOR THE VILLAGE OF WESTFIELD 2020 NEW YORK STATE CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION, WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

The board made a motion to approve the following resolution by Trustee Cochran, seconded by Trustee Lutes and was carried unanimously.

WHEREAS, Village of Westfield, Chautauqua County, supports the submission of a 2020 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) on behalf of the Village, for the Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (EPG) program to conduct a study of the sanitary sewer collection system for Inflow and Infiltration and improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP); and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), in conjunction with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC), provides a competitive statewide reimbursement grant program to assist in the initial planning of eligible Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) water quality projects; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield meets the GIGP eligibility and is considered a funding priority for upgrades to the WWTP and for improvements required in the sewer collection system that will reduce excessive Inflow & Infiltration; and

WHEREAS, if funding is received it will allow the Village of Westfield to prepare an engineering planning report to further investigate and identify solutions for improvements to the WWTP and for Inflow & Infiltration improvements, enabling the Village to seek further financing for construction through the CWSRF program to advance the required water quality improvements;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board, on behalf of the Village, identifies the Village Mayor as the authorized representative for the project, able to execute necessary documents relative to and as required for this application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village Board does hereby authorize and obligates local matching funds of the minimum 20% of the total of any grant funding awarded in the form of in-kind services or cash contribution hereby appropriated from the sewer fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Westfield, recognizes and fully supports the submission of the 2020 CFA for an EPG for investigation into the WWTP and sanitary sewer collection system for Inflow and Infiltration.

RESOLUTION #4-2021 SEQR TYPEII ACTION FOR EPG GRANT

The board made a motion by Trustee Catalano, seconded by Trustee Holbrook and was carried unanimously to approve the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the Village of Westfield Village Board of Trustees, (hereinafter referred to as Village Board) is completing an application through the New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) under New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), in conjunction with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) for the preparation of an engineering report; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Village Board does hereby classify the above referenced Action to be a Type II Action under 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5 [c] [27] of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Type II Actions are not subject to further review under Part 617 of the SEQR Regulations; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, the Village Board in making this classification has satisfied the procedural requirements under SEQR and directs this Resolution to be placed in the file on this Action.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AMBULANCE ISSUE

The Fire Chief explained there have been problems with ambulance 291 and the 1998 ambulance 292 which probably sits around a little more than it should. Our primary ambulance 291 is a 2009 which is going on 12 years, has had some computer problems and is continually out of service. Gorman's had it four times in the last three months trying to fix it, we will probably have a new computer installed which will be quite costly. We really need to look at replacing ambulance 291 with something a little more reliable. I was looking at the called volumes that it has had since in service and it's probably around 7,000-7,500 calls. Its done its duty. I Spoke to Jack to get some basic numbers and a figure of around \$187,000 would be just to replace the truck itself and would not include any equipment or lettering. If we do decide to move forward, I would like to also add a power stretcher. We are one of the only fire departments in Chautauqua County that still have a manual lift stretcher which are very costly. I just wanted to ask for the Village's support to attempt to find some funding to replace this ambulance.

RESTROOMS

It was noted that budget time is coming up and the discussion should be addressed regarding the Fire Department Restrooms renovation. Perhaps grant money could be applied for.

AMBULANCE BILLING

The Mayor noted as this is discussed, spending somewhere around a quarter of a million dollars, if there's no grant money. We're pretty sure that we could collect close to \$150,000 a year in insurance revenue which would help. The Fire Chief agreed 100 percent that the billing would definitely help out the ambulance service of the fire

department. There is a fire truck that is going to need replacing sometime soon; all the equipment is aging vastly and unfortunately, they are three-quarters of a million dollar pieces of equipment and we just can't afford to replace this type of equipment. The name of Tom Becker–USDA-RD was mentioned to contact to inquire if there are any grants for ambulances or some type of assistance.

The Treasurer stated there is \$126,000 in the reserve and another \$17,000 in the budget to be transferred into the reserve. The Town will make its last payment next year for their portion of the rescue truck.

The Mayor felt that the Town should be made aware of this as they pay almost 47% of whatever the cost would be of new equipment.

DISCUSS RECREATION DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

The State has approved the high-risk sports events again; not wrestling, but basketball and soccer. Andrew Webster discussed the possibility of doing a youth basketball clinic which would be an 8-10 week deal.

The board agreed on a motion by Mayor VandeVelde, seconded by Trustee Cochran and was carried unanimously that the basketball clinic could proceed starting out with only Westfield Village and Town residents being allowed for the first month or two and perhaps expand after that.

There being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Trustee Holbrook, seconded by Trustee Catalano and was carried unanimously.