**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

Mayor Dennis Lutes presiding

MEMBERS: Judy Einach, Josh Freifeld, Blake Maras, Johanna Kelley

EXCUSED: Josh Freifeld

OTHERS: Becky Jackson, Kyle Sunday, Ed LeBarron, Andrew Thompson,

Andrew Webster, Dan Hogg, Don McCord, Scott Frudd, Tom Herr,

Mark Twichell, Michelle Twichell

**MAYOR/BOARD**

MINUTES

**The board made a motion by Trustee Maras, seconded by Trustee Kelley and we carried unanimously to approve the minutes of 10/21/24.**

APPROVE VILLAGE BOARD AS LEAD AGENCY

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Maras and was carried unanimously to approve the Village Board as Lead Agency for the SEQR/TYPE 2 Action for the Welch Field Pool/Pool House Renovations.**

REQUEST EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

**POLICE**

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Kelley and was carried unanimously to approve the Police Report.**

FSC UPGRADE

Police Chief Corbin Meleen reported that a Grant was received from the State for just over $60,000 that stipulated certain things we could use the money for. It would allow us to update all the cameras to 4K and would include installing a camera out back where there is none, also in the gym, balcony and North side of building, plus additional upgrades for everything in the Village Offices, for the Court System, Including new monitors, new hardware, etc.

The Grant is very specific what can be done with the money. Including everything it amounts to approximately $20,481 that would be covered by the Grant and would still have quite a bit of money left over. It would allow the Village to upgrade everything in the building. It would not cost the Village anything, it would just be through the Grant Program.

He is also investigating a system called TRUNARC which is quite expensive. The City of Jamestown and the Sheriffs department has one. It uses special technology to identify up to 500+ controlled substances, it scans and tells what the product is without touching it. A possibility of a drone was discussed as well, one advantage being when emergencies occur down in our Gorge area a thermal drone would be beneficial.

Chief Meleen noted he had received an Alternate Crossing Guard Application which he will forward to the board members.

WAGE RATE INCREASE

**A wage increase was requested and approved on a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Kelley and was carried unanimously to increase the wage for Officer Mike Foti to $30.00/Hr.**

**FIRE**

**The Mayor read the Fire Department Report which was approved on a motion made by Trustee Maras, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously.**

**RECREATION**

**The Recreation Department Program Report was read and then approved on a motion made by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Kelley and was carried unanimously.**

Andrew thanked Owen Hotchkiss and Derrick Schuster for their volunteer work in painting the inside of the Field house at the Welch Field.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

**The motion was made by Trustee Kelley, seconded by Trustee Maras and was carried unanimously to approve the Code Enforcement Report.**

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**The motion was made by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Kelley and was carried unanimously to approve the Public Works Report.**

VACATION CARRY OVER

**The board made a motion by Trustee Maras, seconded by Trustee Kelley and was carried unanimously to approve for Ed to carryover 13 vacation days.**

REQUEST EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL

**WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT**

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Maras and was carried unanimously to approve the W&S Report.**

HAWLEY STREET PUMP STATION

The Hawley Street Pump Station work has been completed by H&K.

UPDATE MANHOLE PIPE REPLACEMENT

Manhole pipe replacement between Growers and Wastewater Treatment Plant under the railroad tracks has gone well with the construction portion. There was an issue with the Contractor to do the pipe that couldn’t do it. We have some people that are certified to do that type of work, so they completed that.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Kelley and was carried unanimously to approve the Electric Dept. Report.**

BOURNE ST. SUBSTATION CIRCUIT SWITCHERS BID

**The board made a motion by Trustee Maras, seconded by Trustee Kelley and was carried unanimously to approve the bid for Bourne St. Substation Circuit Switchers to E.L. Flowers & Associates for $115,520 each for a total of $231,040. The other bid received was from Tatman Associates in the amount of $442,416.**

A bond resolution had been previously approved to help pay for this project.

REQUEST EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

NYSERDA CLEAN ENERGIES GRANT

Andrew had sent out an email about the NYSERDA Clean Energies Grant we were awarded in hopes of using that for the lighting in Moore Park. In filling out the paperwork they did not have the stipulations they had listed this time. They are only allowing a maximum of $1,000 per decorative light, which is going to cut us short moneywise. The quote we have was for about $64,000 total, so going by that for 18 lights, we would only be able to get about $18,000 per light from NYSERDA. He is going to investigate this to try to find something less expensive. A decision would have to be a necessary from a group.

**TREASURER**

WARRANTS

**The following warrants were approved on a motion made by Trustee Maras, seconded by Trustee Einach and was carried unanimously.**

Electric W#27 $ 7,500.00

General W#26 25,350.34

Sewer W#29 9,407.52

Electric W#26 100,365.58

Water W#28 19,291.01

Sewer W#31 187,513.34

Water W#31 26,907.83

Capt’l. Proj. W# 7 10,200.00

General W#29 57,358.95

Electric W#29 209,256.46

CITIZENS AGAINST WIND TURBINES

A resident read a draft resolution to the board regarding Wind Turbines in Lake Erie.

RESPONSE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Police Chief Corbin Meleen thanked the Street, Electric and Fire Departments for their quick response time in assisting for the accident which took place in the Village today, taking out 2 electric poles etc., noting that we are so fortunate to have such great response from everyone working well together and the cleanup promptly expedited.

The Mayor reiterated appreciation for the all the departments working well together.

NYS FORWARD GRANT

WDC Director, Don McCord reported that he had attended a Presentation November 13th in Buffalo to the NYS Forward Grant with Empire State Development and Regional Development Council. He thanked Andrew and Josh Freifeld for attending and their presentations. There were 5 communities from Chautauqua County that were also in attendance that had Grant applications and presentations. We await the results of that.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS PROGRAM

He had sent the board an email on September 19th and had spoken with the Mayor about the Façade Program. The 1st Impressions Program ran in 2022 and ran in 2023 and were able to help businesses and get more funding for grants. The WDC Board is attempting to run that program further and it’s been beneficial. The WDC has committed $5,000 towards running this program further. The Town of Westfield has committed money towards running it further, and they would like to get some backing from the Village to add to that. In 2025 the program can be run again.

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Maras and was carried unanimously to approve for the Village to give WDC $5,000 towards the 1st Impressions Program.**

**The board made a motion by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Maras and was carried unanimously to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel issues.**

**Following the Executive Session the board made a motion to close by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Blake and was caried unanimously.**

**No action taken following the Executive Session.**

**The board made a motion to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Einach, seconded by Trustee Maras and was carried unanimously.**

Rebecca J. Jackson

Deputy Village Clerk