

- PRESENT** Mayor Welch, Deputy Mayor Eydt, Trustee Conde, Trustee Coppins, Trustee Fittante, Law Counsel Leone, Engineer Marino, Superintendent Mang, Clerk Fundis, Treasurer Longwell, Deputy Clerk Cassick, Police Captain Salada, Recreation Director McDermott, Historian Piper, Fire Inspector Beebe
- EXCUSED** Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Candella
- SPECIAL MEETING** The special meeting with Jeremy Smith from Lunsden McCormick on the financial audit opened at 5:30pm. The May 31, 2024 fund balances are as follows:
- General Fund \$2,391,997
Capital Projects \$55,476
Water Fund \$7,247
Sewer Fund \$368,693
- During the presentation Smith told the Village Board that the water fund's total fund balance decreased by \$23,890. The resulting water fund's total fund balance as of May 31, 2024 was \$7,247. Smith said we are starting to get to a point where there's going to be nothing left in our water fund. Treasurer Longwell told the board that her and Smith have been discussing raising the water rates and Smith is suggesting raising it to \$4.50 per 100 cubic feet. The village board thought that was too big of an increase at once. Other than the water rate, Smith said the village's finances are in good shape.
- The meeting was closed at 6:00pm.
- CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Welch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:03pm
- MINUTES** A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to approve the September 16, 2024 and October 7, 2024 minutes.
- BILLS** A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to approve the October 2024 bills as presented by Treasurer Longwell in the following amounts:
- General Fund: \$314,305.09
Capital Fund: \$25,404.73
Trust & Agency: \$15,887.86
Total: \$355,597.68
- REPORTS** **Police Captain Salada** said they are preparing for the Trick or Treat on Center event on Sunday. We will be placing extra barricades on the street that are capable of stopping a vehicle.
- Recreation Director McDermott** mentioned the Fun Run that will be taking place at the Trick or Treat on Center event, as well as the Halloween event activities on the Red Brick Campus. We will also have our Wild Turkey Hunt at Academy Park in two weeks.
- Historian Piper** discussed the Lewiston Cemetery.
- LIAISON REPORTS** **Trustee Coppins** said she has been working with the VFW on the placement of the hometown hero banners in the village.
- Trustee Conde** gave an update on the meeting with the Town of Lewiston to discuss the police contract. Trustee Coppins said that Law Counsel Leone changed the language and that has been agreed upon, the numbers have not been agreed upon yet. The next meeting is on October 30, 2024.
- OLD BUSINESS** **Academy Park Bottle Refill Station**
A discussion ensued on the bottle refill station Anthony Dimino has offered to donate in Academy Park. Superintendent Mang and Trustee Fittante discussed the conflicts with this, and that there is more to it than the donation refill station. There are ADA access requirements, water, sewer and electric hook up, winterization, etc.

Mang said I suggest if he wants to donate this, Dimino should submit plans for the project and hire a contractor for the job. The Village Board of Trustees agreed with Mang's suggestion.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Northwest Jazz Festival 2025

A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to approve the request to host the Northwest Jazz Festival on August 22-23, 2025; this request includes Village facilities use from August 22-24, 2025, use of the International Peace Garden and Hennepin Park, use of Center Street from 4th to 7th Street, as well as waiving of the Open Container Bottle Law for the two days of the festival.

Lewiston Fire Co. No. 1 Conditional Membership

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to approve the Lewiston Fire Co. No. 1 Conditional Membership of Jon Edward Smith.

Lewiston Fire Co. No. 1 Restricted Membership

A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Trustee Fittante and passed unanimously to approve the Lewiston Fire Co. No.1 Restricted Membership on Nicholas Walker.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to enter into Executive Session immediately following the close of this meeting to discuss real property and litigation.

DISCUSSION Roof Repair at Red Brick Municipal Building

Trustee Coppins asked about the status of the roof repair work at Red Brick. Superintendent Mang said that he is waiting on a date from Blue Ox for when they can start the work.

Water Rate & Capital Water Improvement Increases

Treasurer Longwell proposed increases in the water rate and capital water improvement fee. Longwell said that upon our financial audit, it was suggested to increase our water rate to \$4.50, it is currently \$4.03. Niagara County is raising their water rate \$.10 in January, and we have to pay a yearly tax which changes annually based on assessments. We have not raised our water rates in two years, nor did we raise the sewer rate last year. Longwell suggested increasing the capital improvement fee from \$10 to \$15 to support the infrastructure updates that need to be done, and the new EPA requirements. The Trustees agreed to increase the water rate to \$4.25 now, then review again down the road.

A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Trustee Fittante and passed unanimously to schedule a public hearing on Monday November 18, 2024 at 6:00pm to increase the water rate to \$4.25 per 100 cubic feet and to increase the capital water improvement fee to \$15.

Facility Rental Fees

Clerk Fundis presented an updated fee schedule for village facility rentals. Fundis said with the increased use of our facilities, the current rates we are charging do not accumulate enough funds to cover the costs of maintenance and repairs. I researched surrounding municipalities, and feel the fees proposed are fair. I have three tiers of pricing listed, to help benefit residents and our non-profit organizations; the tiers for pricing are family functions, non-profit/charity organizations, and business/corporations. In each tier, I have different price points for residents and non-residents.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Fittante and passed unanimously to schedule a public hearing on Monday, November 18, 2024 at 6:00pm on the proposed increase of rental fees.

Peace Garden Snow Removal

Superintendent Mang addressed the request for the snow removal by the DPW in the International Garden. The request was made last year, and was approved for

that winter but was to be reviewed to see if it will continue. Mang said that the Peace Garden is full of aesthetically pleasing bricks that people pay for. The snow blower is going to cause damage to these. There are concerns when the DPW is unable to keep up the snow removal in the Peace Garden if they are busy with snow removal on the village streets and sidewalks, and that due to the uneven surface with the bricks, that a path cannot be properly cleared, and both could be a hazard and liability. The Village Board of Trustees agreed that the DPW will not continue snow removal in the International Peace Garden. Mang said we will close off the park with barricades but can open and maintain the area for Christmas Walk Weekend.

REPORTS **Superintendent Mang** said leaf pick-up will run an extra week this year, from October 31st through December 6th, 2024. We currently have a vacancy in the DPW; we are placing an ad for the position; mechanical experience is preferred but we will be accepting all applications. The ice boom will be installed, and the ramps will be closed at Lewiston Landing November 4th and 5th, with secondary dates set for December 2nd and 3rd. The Ski Club docks have increased the price by an extra \$200 for their removal. It was discussed to add the cost for removal and installation of these docks to be added to the slip holders lease agreement going forward.

Law Counsel Leone stated that the water lease with NYS has been extended; the lease will expire in 2030.

Engineer Marino gave updates on the progress on the pavilion at Academy Park, the staircase at Lewiston Landing and the fish cleaning station.

ADJOURN A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Trustee Fittante and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:45pm.

Shannon Fundis, Clerk

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENT Mayor Welch, Deputy Mayor Eydt, Trustee Conde, Trustee Coppins, Trustee Fittante, Law Counsel Leone, Engineer Marino, Superintendent Mang, Clerk Fundis, Treasurer Longwell, Deputy Clerk Cassick

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Welch called the Executive Session to order at 6:55pm.

Discussion ensued on real property and litigation matters. No action was taken.

ADJOURN A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Trustee Fittante and passed unanimously to come out of Executive Session and return to a public meeting at 7:56pm.

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT Mayor Welch, Deputy Mayor Eydt, Trustee Conde, Trustee Coppins, Trustee Fittante, Law Counsel Leone, Engineer Marino, Superintendent Mang, Clerk Fundis, Treasurer Longwell, Deputy Clerk Cassick

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Welch called the public meeting to order at 7:56pm.

BUSINESS **Rescind Wargo Retainage Release**
A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to rescind the motion from September 3, 2024, to release the retainage amount of \$47,992.66 contingent upon the final caulking to be completed and inspected per specifications in the bid package and to ensure the project is complete, minus the retainage holding to satisfy the liens.

Wargo Payment Approval

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Fittante and passed unanimously to make an out of cycle payment to Wargo in the amount of \$47,992.66 for pay application 23.

Wargo Payment Approval

A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to make an out of cycle payment to Wargo in the amount of \$17,609.53 for pay application 24.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to come out of Executive Session and return to a public meeting at 7:58pm.

Shannon Fundis, Clerk