

PRESENT

Mayor Welch, Trustee Gibson, Trustee Marasco, Trustee Eydt, Trustee Conde, Law Counsel Leone, Police Chief Previte, Superintendent Wills, Engineer Marino from Nussbaumer & Clark, Clerk Treasurer Salada, Deputy Clerk Fundis, Deputy Treasurer Myers, Deputy Clerk Vazquez

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Welch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:02PM.

MINUTES

A motion was made in unison by Trustee Gibson and Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to approve the November 18th, 2019 Village Board Meeting minutes and December 2nd, 2019 Village Board Work Session minutes.

BILLS:

A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Trustee Eydt and passed unanimously to pay the November 2019 bills as presented by the Village Clerk's office in the following amounts:

GENERAL FUND: \$133,975.88

CAPITAL FUND: \$338,931.88

TRUST & AGENCY: \$529.56

REPORTS:

Police Chief Previte inquired on whether the Board of Trustees had time to discuss the parking issue on Ridge Street that they had been working on together.

Police Chief Previte discussed a proposal he is working on with the Town of Lewiston regarding a drone law; currently I have had issues with at least two Town of Lewiston and two Village of Lewiston residents where drones are being flown into their property. There is nothing in New York State law that prohibits that, so a drone could be flown into your backyard with a camera on it. I would like to pursue this with Law Counsel Leone if this is something the board would like to consider.

Mayor Welch agreed that this is something they would like to bring up to Law Counsel Leone and look into.

Recreation Director Brendan McDermott mentioned that during the Christmas Activity weekend, there were over 500 participants; also, we are very appreciative of all the organizations that helped out. Our spring program is on the Village website and registrations are taking place at this time.

Historian Russ Piper stated that he has acquired more historical donations. Regarding the Eagle Scout project for the restoration of the Cemetery at 5th & Cayuga Street, I am working with Tom Collister to prepare what we would like to accomplish.

Mayor Welch expressed that when a plan with the Eagle Scouts is put together, it should be presented to the Historic Preservation Commission so they are aware, as the cemetery is a nationally designated historical site.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Trustee Eydt mentioned the previous Lower Niagara River Region meeting that was held in Newfane to discuss the water levels in the lake; it was a very informative meeting, addressing what the IJC is doing and not doing about the water levels. The next meeting will be held on January 9th, 2020.

Mayor Welch stated that she attended a meeting with Trustee Eydt for the Artpark master plan for their final design; there is more to come on this, it is great to be included and working with them on this project; they have done a great job.

NEW BUSINESS

IRS-Driven Post-Issuance Tax Compliance Procedures

A motion was made by Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Conde and Trustee Gibson in unison and passed unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

IRS-Driven Post-Issuance Tax Compliance Procedures:

RESOLUTION, DATED DECEMBER 16, 2019, OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF LEWISTON, NIAGARA COUNTY, NEW YORK (THE "VILLAGE") ADOPTING UPDATED POST-ISSUANCE TAX COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has issued regulations requiring issuers of tax-exempt obligations to certify on various forms that they actively monitor compliance with federal tax rules following the issuance of such obligations; and WHEREAS, the Village is a periodic issuer of tax-exempt obligations and thus is subject to the aforementioned compliance requirements which are critical for the preservation of the preferential tax status of those obligations; and

WHEREAS, it is therefore in the best interest of the Village to adopt formal written procedures to ensure such compliance and to designate an official responsible for ensuring that such procedures are followed; and

WHEREAS, Hodgson Russ LLP, as bond counsel to the Village, has prepared (and has recommended that the Village adopt) post-issuance tax compliance procedures;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village hereby adopts the updated post-issuance tax compliance procedures that are attached hereto as "Schedule A" and resolves to be governed thereby; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the below Schedule A will be placed in its entirety in the official records, files, and minutes of the Village and adhered to going forward; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Deputy Clerk Fundis polled the board, receiving the following results:

Trustee Conde	"YES"	Trustee Eydt	"YES"
Trustee Gibson	"YES"	Trustee Marasco	"YES"
Mayor Welch	"YES"		

Hiring Recreation Leader – Amy Salada

A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Trustee Gibson and passed unanimously to approve the request by Recreation Director Brendan McDermott to hire Amy Salada for the position of Recreation Leader at the pay rate of 13.07 to begin January 2, 2020.

442-444 Center Street

A motion was made by Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Gibson and passed unanimously to approve the revision to 442-444 Center Street due to the location of the water and sewer lines.

Trustee Eydt expressed his reservation with the change in plans; that the board should be notified prior to the work being done by the Village Building Inspector, they shouldn't be the last to know about it.

DISCUSSION

Water Meter Head Replacement Letter

Deputy Treasurer Fundis presented a sample letter to the Board of Trustees to be sent out to any residents who have not had their water meter head replaced by this time. The Clerk's office is projecting to send this letter out early January if you approve.

Mayor Welch stated that this is a good letter; hopefully they will finally get the message and schedule appointments for the change, it only takes about ten minutes. If not we will have to take other measures to accomplish changing these, even if we have to schedule time on a Saturday to get this done.

NYPA – Richard Soluri Park

Mayor Welch addressed that she wrote a letter and sent large packets of information to the CEO and president of the New York Power Authority asking for help on our Richard Soluri Park; they took our property many years ago, and I am reaching out to ask for help on developing our park.

Lewiston Landing - Waterfront Progress

Trustee Eydt mentioned that progress on the waterfront at Lewiston Landing came to a halt due to the weather, but it is very close to being done. I can't wait for it to be open in the spring.

Mayor Welch added that Trustee Eydt and I took a walk down there and it is going to be beautiful.

Engineer Marino gave a brief summary on the current status of Lewiston Landing and what remains to be completed in the spring.

Mayor Welch wanted to inform the public that there is an incomplete section of Lewiston Landing where they were unable to pour concrete, the public should not walk down there because it is not safe; it is all fenced off, but for your own safety, please do not go in there.

REPORTS:

Clerk Treasurer Salada reported that Deputy Treasurer Myers is working on the January 2020 water bills, and agrees with the letter presented today regarding the water meter head changes to be sent out to get these changed out as soon as possible. She is also working on the personnel changes. Deputy Clerk Fundis has the village meeting and minute procedures well under control. Deputy Clerk Vazquez is doing well and working independently. The village office is in capable hands and will continue to run smoothly. With that said, in the spirit of the season, I want to say that I am grateful for my career with the Village of Lewiston, for my community that I call home, for the relationships and friendships I have developed over the past thirty years, and for my family and friends that have been with me through it all. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Law Counsel Leone stated that he has been talking to Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Candella about the lawsuit regarding 125 S. 1st Street. I suspect this case will be starting very quickly. Also, the Attorney General's office contacted me about the lawsuit the state is bringing involving the river and the water and the loss of property. I will continue to follow up on this. The Attorney General's office has been appropriately keeping me in the loop, this has been helpful.

Mayor Welch commented that in regards to the property 140 N. 1st Street, the owners will be back in January to fix up the property. I also spoke to somebody who expressed interest in purchasing this property. It is a good piece of property, hopefully somebody out there is interested.

Engineer Marino stated he is working on getting reimbursement for the waterfront; we have made several grant applications with the consolidating funding through New York

State which should be announced by next week. These grant applications include potential funding for Academy Park, Lewiston Landing and some water infrastructures. I also would like to congratulate Amy (Clerk Treasurer Salada), I am very lucky to have worked with her and this Village has been very lucky to have her.

BOARD REPORTS:

Trustee Conde said he would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone; Thank you Amy (Clerk Treasurer Salada), I wish you the best and a blessed retirement, and I will see you downstairs.

Trustee Eydt asked Superintendent Wills if he heard anything regarding the auction.

Superintendent Wills stated that there are three days left for the auction, and that the docks are currently at \$2,700 and the truck is at \$360. We have over 200,000 miles on that truck and it is between 25-27 years old with rust and a cracked frame. If you are not happy with that number, we will wait a couple weeks and repost it again.

Happy holidays everyone and I wish Amy (Clerk Treasurer Salada) a great retirement, I recommend it for everyone. I am going to miss you.

Trustee Gibson said he would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. Amy (Clerk Treasurer Salada), I would like to thank you for your ear to vent to, and good luck to you in the next chapter of your life as a recreation leader.

Trustee Marasco said happy holidays to everyone. Amy (Clerk Treasurer Salada), you will bring great joy and kindness wherever you land, we are lucky that you will be landing on the first floor, which will make this transition much easier for all of us. You are a superb employee.

Mayor Welch said to Amy (Clerk Treasurer Salada) it has been a lot of years. I didn't figure I was going to wind up back here, and you may wind up here someday. I want to thank you for all your years with me, we had a great time, and I wish you the best. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Zoning Board of Appeals has no business, there will be no meeting held in December.

The next Village Board of Trustees Work Session is scheduled for Monday, January 6th, 2020 at 6:00pm.

The next Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held on Monday, January 13th, 2020 at 6:00pm.

The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 13th, 2020 at 6:30pm.

The Village Clerks office and the Dept. of Public Works will be closed on Wednesday, December 25th, 2019 and January 1st, 2020.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Trustee Eydt and passed unanimously to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 6:24pm.

Shannon Fundis
Deputy Clerk