

**PRESENT** Mayor Welch, Deputy Mayor Eydt, Trustee Coppins, Law Counsel Leone, Fire Inspector Beebe, Deputy Clerk Vazquez, Historian Piper

Trustee Gibson was absent but called in on speaker phone and will not be voting.

**EXCUSED** Trustee Conde, Superintendent Wills, Engineer Marino, Clerk Fundis, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Candella, Recreation Director McDermott, Police Chief Previte, Treasurer Longwell

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Welch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6pm.

**RESIDENTS** A resident inquired if the Board could do anything about the high rent being asked for the empty spaces at 790 Center St.

Mayor Welch stated she had recently spoke to Bill Paladino and suggested he lower the rent to get tenants in there and is not sure if he will do so.

**MINUTES** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to approve the November 21, 2022 and the December 5, 2022 minutes.

**BILLS** A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to approve the December 2022 bills presented by Treasurer Longwell in the following amount:

General Fund: \$348,752.85

Capital Fund: \$115,177.25

Trust & Agency: \$3,657.60

**REPORTS** Fire Inspector Beebe questioned when work will begin at 460 Center St., the Frontier House.

Mayor Welch stated she spoke with Bill Paladino on Wednesday; he said the financing and contractors are in place and they will start work after the holidays.

**NEW BUSINESS** **Mighty Niagara Half Marathon**  
A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to approve the request made by Niagara Hospice to host the Mighty Niagara Half Marathon and the Hospice Dash 5K on Saturday, September 30, 2023. The same route will be used as in the prior years.

**Lewiston Fire Co # 1**

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to approve the following Lewiston Fire Co. No. 1 Conditional Memberships:

**Chris A. Plennert**

**Ian P. Smith**

**2022 Sewer Use Agreement**

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to approve the 2022 Sewer Use Agreement as presented by Jeffery Ritter, Administrator/Chief Operator of the Town of Lewiston Water Pollution Control Center.

**Public Hearing for Short-Term Rentals**

A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 6pm to adopt local laws on short-term rentals properties.

**Public Hearing for 100 S. Third Street**

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 6pm on the request from resident, David Olin, who is asking for an extension of the R-1A, Residential, Single Family, Medium Density Zoning district to the property located at 100 S. Third Street (currently zoned R-B-2, Retail Business) to build a residential home.

**Lewiston Village Cemetery Plaque**

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to approve the following proposed verbiage for the Lewiston Village Cemetery Plaque:

‘THIS SITE ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE NEWER CEMETERY WAS KNOWN AS OAKWOOD FOR THE OAK TREES LINING ITS BORDER. FORMALLY A HAY FIELD NEXT TO THE ORIGINAL CEMETERY AND WAS PURCHASED IN 1875. HERE LIES EARLY SETTLERS THAT WERE MOVED FROM THEIR FAMILY PLOTS AND WELL KNOWN LEWISTONIANS THAT MADE LEWISTON WHAT IT IS TODAY.

ON YOUR FAR LEFT IS POTTERS FIELD WHICH MARKS THE WESTERN AND SOUTHERN BOUNDRY OF THE OLDER CEMETERY. THIS CEMETERY WAS ORIGINALLY LOCATED ON FLAT WET GROUND ON THE CORNER OF CAYUGA AND SIXTH STREET. IN 1812 A CEMETERY COMMITTEE WAS FORMED AND IT WAS DECIDED TO MOVE THE CEMETERY TO HIGHER DRY GROUND ON THIS KNOLL. THE CEMETERY OCCUPIES THE EASTERN SIDE AND THE CHURCH THE WESTERN SIDE. MOST OF LEWISTONS FOUNDING FAMILIES ARE BURIED HERE. THE TWO CEMETERIES ARE NOW ONE KNOWN AS THE LEWISTON VILLAGE CEMETERY AND IS ON THE NATIONAL HISTORIC REGISTER.’

**Budget Amendment**

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to approve the budget amendment request from Treasurer Longwell as follows:

Decrease Revenue line: A00-0689-0000 – Other Liability ARPA - \$2,000.00

Increase Expense line: A00-1440-4150 – Engineer – Other - \$2,000.00

**Executive Session**

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

**Susan Hofert Resignation**

A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of Susan Hofert from the Historic Preservation Commission effective December 15, 2022.

**Tasia Fitzpatrick Resignation**

A motion was made by Trustee Coppins seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of Tasia Fitzpatrick from the Planning Commission effective December 15, 2022.

**DISCUSSION**

Trustee Gibson questioned the change in the new windows installed at 453 Center St., Gather Restaurant. These were not the windows that were approved and asked why didn't Building Inspector Candella stop the installation.

Mayor Welch stated Candella talked to the owner, Michael Hibbard and he will be attending the Historic Preservation and Planning Meeting on January 9, 2023, to present a revision to the original window plans.

**REPORTS**

Law Counsel Leone reported that he is working on the agreement with the Town of Lewiston concerning the sewer billing procedure for the 15 homes on

Mountain View Drive. Leone is waiting to hear back from the Town of Lewiston Attorney, Alfonso Bax.

Law Counsel Leone stated the reason why Trustee Gibson could not vote by telephone is there was a change to the Open Meetings Law. In order to have people vote who are not present, we would need a Local Law and have video conferencing available for all public meetings.

Trustee Gibson questioned why we can't use Zoom for the meetings like we did during COVID.

Leone said if we were to adopt a Local Law permitting this, we can have a quorum with three people attending by Zoom as long as the public can see it.

**BOARD REPORTS** The Village Board of Trustees would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting is at 6:30pm on Tuesday, December 20, 2022.

The Village Board of Trustees Work Session is at 6pm on **Tuesday**, January 3, 2023.

The Historic Preservation Commission meeting is at 6pm, immediately followed by the Planning Board meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023.

The Village Board of Trustees meeting is at 6pm on **Tuesday**, January 17, 2023.

The Clerk's office and DPW will be closed on Monday, December 26, 2022 and Monday January 2, 2023 for the holidays.

**ADJOURN** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting and enter into Executive Session at 6:16pm.

---

Deputy Clerk Donna Vazquez

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**PRESENT** Mayor Welch, Deputy Mayor Eydt, Trustee Coppins, Law Counsel Leone, Deputy Clerk Vazquez, Trustee Gibson by phone

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Welch called the Executive Session to order at 6:20pm.

A brief discussion ensued on personnel matters. No action was taken.

**ADJOURN** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to come out of Executive Session at 6:23pm.

#### **PUBLIC MEETING**

**PRESENT** Mayor Welch, Deputy Mayor Eydt, Trustee Coppins, Law Counsel Leone, Deputy Clerk Vazquez, Trustee Gibson by phone

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Welch called the meeting to order at 6:23pm.

**BUSINESS** **Resolution Recognizing Village of Lewiston Employees Working Through the COVID-19 Pandemic and COVID 19 Essential Worker Premium Pay**

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to adopt the following resolution as written:

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING VILLAGE OF LEWISTON EMPLOYEES WORKING THROUGH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND COVID-19 ESSENTIAL WORKER PREMIUM PAY**

**WHEREAS**, in March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused government and service shutdowns throughout our County, and

**WHEREAS**, many Village of Lewiston Employees were still required to report to work throughout the shutdown despite the heightened challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Lewiston Village Board appreciates and recognizes the hard work and dedication of all its employees, and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Lewiston especially recognizes those Village of Lewiston first responders and employees that worked throughout the COVID-19 shutdown amidst the heightened challenges of COVID pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available under the American Rescue Plan to respond to the needs of essential workers by allowing recipients to remunerate essential workers for the challenges they have faced during the public health emergency of the COVID-19 pandemic, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, The Village Mayor and Village of Lewiston Board of Trustees supports COVID-19 Essential Worker Pay, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that eligible employees shall be those active employees that worked in their regular place of work in the Village of Lewiston for the time period of April 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that those union and nonunion employees shall be compensated \$2500.00 for full time employees during the period of April 1, 2020 through July 21, 2020.

Deputy Clerk Vazquez polled the Board and the Resolution passed with three yes votes as follows:

Deputy Mayor Eydt YES Trustee Coppins YES Mayor Welch YES

**Budget Amendment**

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to approve the budget amendment request from Treasurer Longwell as follows:

Decrease Revenue line: A00-0689-0000 – Other Liability ARPA - \$ 40,000.00

Increase Expense line: A00-1325-1040 – Clerk/Treasurer Safety Awards - \$7,500.00

Increase Expense line: A00-5010-1020 – Transportation Safety Awards - \$27,500.00

Increase Expense line: A00-7310-1000 – Youth Programs Payroll - \$5,000.00

**ADJOURN** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Coppins and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:24pm.

---

Deputy Clerk Donna Vazquez