

**PRESENT** Mayor Welch, Trustee Eydt, Trustee Conde, Trustee Gibson, Trustee Marasco, Chief Previte, Engineer Marino, Law Counsel Leone, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Candella, Fire Inspector Beebe, Recreation Director McDermott, Clerk Fundis, Treasurer Myers, Deputy Clerk Vazquez

**PUBLIC HEARING** Mayor Welch opened the public hearing with the Pledge of Allegiance; on the proposed 2021-22 contract for fire protection with Lewiston Fire Company No. 1 at 6:09pm.

No residents spoke on this matter; Mayor Welch closed the public hearing at 6:10pm.

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Welch called the Board of Trustee meeting at 6:10pm.

**RESIDENTS** **Fire Chief Myers** spoke on the parking issues that occur during large festivals and events. A main concern are the crosswalks, where patrons tend to park, which prevents the fire trucks from being able to turn onto side streets. Myers suggested that a group get together soon to discuss and prepare in advance prior to the festival season beginning.

Chief Previte stated that the crosswalks are enforced and vehicles parked there are ticketed already, but people do not care; they would rather park in these spots and pay the fine. Previte suggested that removing vehicles maybe something that should be discussed.

Mayor Welch agreed that the Fire Chief and Police Chief should get together, along with the Chamber of Commerce and Lewiston Council on the Arts to work on a plan. Welch also suggested that 'No Parking' signs placed that state the vehicle would be towed.

**MINUTES** A motion was made by Trustee Gibson seconded by Trustee Eydt and passed unanimously to approve the January 19, 2021 Village Board Meeting.

**BILLS** A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Trustee Eydt and passed unanimously to approve the February bills presented by Treasurer Myers in the following amounts:

**Trust & Agency – \$1,697.56**

**General Fund - \$226,973.10**

**Capital - \$39,999.54**

**REPORTS** **Police Chief Previte** discussed a vacancy for a position that they will be filling soon.

**Historian Piper** spoke on pieces he has recently acquired, progress with Facebook, and his current work on the entrance of the Red Brick building.

**Recreation Director McDermott** gave an update on the tennis program that was offered in the past at Waste Technology Services; due to this building being closed, the program will move to the Ralph Wilson Community Center on 66<sup>th</sup> Street in Niagara Falls.

**LIAISON REPORTS** **Trustee Eydt** commended Deputy Superintendent Mang for the great job he did taking charge while Superintendent Wills being out during the snowstorm.

Eydt addressed Engineer Marino, stating that he would like to get together with Fire Chief Myers, Superintendent Wills and Niagara County to expedite the water infrastructure process. A discussion ensued on the progress of this project.

**Trustee Gibson** inquired on the status of Artpark for the upcoming year. Mayor Welch stated she had heard, tentatively, the canceled shows from last season will be coming back this year.

**Trustee Marasco** gave an update on the Lewiston Business Group's plan to do a window walk in the spring. Marasco also addressed the business' concerns with the repaving of Center Street.

Mayor Welch stated that she spoke with Frank Cirillo from the Department of Transportation, who clarified that the repaving would not have a large impact on the businesses. The longest amount of time they would be in front of one location working would be about fifteen minutes. The roads will not be shut down, they will be milled down and they will still be able to be driven on. The bids for the contractors will go out in June, with a 45-day review period following that.

Trustee Marasco gave updates on the proposed Jazz Festival, Garden Fest and Bicentennial events, as well as the plans for the relocation of the band shell in Academy Park, funded by Anthony Dimino.

**Mayor Welch** gave an update on the proposed street signs and DOT signs to be removed, as well as the proposed bike path that will run from Academy Park to Cayuga Street.

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

**Lewiston Fire Company No. 1. Fire Protection Contract**

A motion was made by Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Gibson and Trustee Conde in unison and passed unanimously to approve the to the proposed 2021-2022 contract for fire protection with Lewiston Fire Company No. 1.

**VFW – Memorial Day Service at Academy Park**

A motion was made by Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Gibson and passed unanimously to approve the request made by The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Down River Post No. 7487 to hold a Memorial Day Service at Academy Park on Monday, May 31, 2021 at 11:00am. This request includes permission and assistance in closing down Portage Road from standard vehicular traffic from Center to Cayuga Street, adjacent to the park.

**Lewiston fire Co. #1 Member Request**

A motion was made by Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to approve the request made by Lewiston Fire Co. #1 to approve the resignations of Giuliana Nicoletti and Zachary Sortore and remove from the Village list.

**Lewiston Council on the Arts Facilities Use Request**

A motion was made by Trustee Gibson seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to approve the tentative request made by the Lewiston Art Council for the following facilities use and dates for proposed events:

Summer of '69 Concert - July 9 at Hennepin Park Gazebo, or Academy Park if needed to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Blue Monday Concert Series - July 12, July 19, July 26, Aug 2, Aug 9, Aug 16 at Hennepin Park Gazebo, or Academy Park if needed to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Bug Fest - July 10 at Seneca Park

Lewiston Art Festival - August 14 & 15, for use on Center St. from 4th –8<sup>th</sup> St., Hennepin Park Gazebo, Peace Garden, and N 5th & S 5th up to bank drive thru; if Center Street is under construction, would consider moving to Academy Park.

Marble Orchard Ghost Walks - Sept 11, Sept 18, Sept 25, Oct 2, Oct 9, Oct 16, Oct 23, Oct 30; for use of Center St., Peace Garden, and the Village Cemetery

**Zoning Board of Appeals Member Resignation**

A motion was made by Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of Neal Pignatora as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**Zoning Board of Appeals Member Resignation**

A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Trustee Marasco and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of Richard Portale as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**Zoning Board of Appeals Member Appointment**

A motion was made by Trustee Marasco seconded by Trustee Gibson and passed unanimously to appoint Al Soluri from an alternate to a permanent member of the Zoning Board to fill the unexpired term of Neal Pignatora to June, 2024.

**Municipal Solutions, Inc. Contract Renewal**

A motion was made by Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Gibson and passed unanimously to approve the renewal of the Municipal Solutions, Inc. contract for General Financial Services.

**Lewiston Landing Phase 5 Proposal**

A motion was made by Trustee Eydt seconded by Trustee Gibson and passed unanimously to approve the proposal from Nussbaumer & Clarke, Inc. for the Lewiston Landing Phase 5 – DOS Contract #C1001651.

**DISCUSSION**

**Fireworks**

A discussion ensued on the plans for fireworks for July 4, 2021. Mayor Welch mentioned that fireworks were funded completely last year by donations from Anthony Dimino and Jerome Williams, and that she would reach out to them to see if they were able to donate again this year.

Clerk Fundis stated that she spoke with Matt Shaw of Skylighters NY, LLC, who is currently working on a contract to submit to the board, and has confirmed that the date requested will be held for the Village of Lewiston.

**The Plant Shack Parking**

Trustee Gibson addressed a concern regarding parking from the property owner of 335 Center Street, where The Plant Shack is currently located. Gibson asked even though it is village owned property, would it be possible to designate two parking spots for the business. Mayor Welch and the board agreed to look into this request further.

**REPORTS**

**Engineer Marino** gave an update on current grants to be used for the cleaning station upgrades and the kayak launch, a grant opportunity for charging stations to be placed at Academy Park and at the Waterfront. Marino also discussed the ongoing plans for the water infrastructure system and the Department of Public Works Garage.

**BOARD  
REPORTS**

**Trustee Conde** inquired about possible Zoning Board of Appeals candidates to fill the current vacancies.

**Mayor Welch** mentioned that the Village of Lewiston is supposed to get \$457 thousand from Higgins for a Covid-19 Relief Plan under President Biden.

Welch mentioned that on Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 6pm a meeting with Chief Myers, Superintendent Wills, Trustee Eydt, Trustee Conde, and Engineer Marino to discuss the plan for the reconstruction of the water infrastructure.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting is canceled for February 2021

The Village Board of Trustees Board work session will be held at 6pm on Monday, March 1, 2021.

The Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held at 6:00pm, immediately followed by the Planning Board meeting on Monday, March 8, 2021.

**ADJOURN** Mayor Welch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52pm.

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Shannon Fundis, Clerk