

PRESENT Mayor Welch, Deputy Mayor Eydt, Trustee Conde, Trustee Gibson, Trustee Marasco, Superintendent Wills, Law Counsel Leone, Engineer Marino, Clerk Fundis, Deputy Clerk Vazquez, Fire Inspector Beebe, Recreation Director McDermott, Police Captain Salada, Historian Piper, Historic Preservation Commission Members: Rita Geiben, Peter Coppins, David Giusiana

EXCUSED Treasurer Longwell, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Candella

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Welch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:04pm

MINUTES A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Trustee Marasco and passed unanimously to approve the December 20, 2021 Village Board Meeting minutes.

BILLS A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Marasco and passed unanimously to approve the January bills as presented by Treasurer Myers in the following amounts:

General Fund: \$183,773.64

Trust & Agency: \$2,055.67

REPORTS **Police Captain Salada** introduced himself as the newly appointed Captain, and stated there are two new officers that are new to the Academy, which they will bring to a meeting to introduce once they have completed training.

Recreation Director McDermott gave a full report on all upcoming programs and events. McDermott commented on the soccer clinic that has been brought back this year, and it should fill up quickly. McDermott also mentioned that, Katie Hoyle from the Lewiston Porter Youth Football program has expressed interest in utilizing the fields at the Richard F. Soluri Park in spring for flag football, as well as fall for their regular season. McDermott suggested that we meet and discuss the details soon.

Mayor Welch commented that we would love to have them back, their time here was well received, and we will just need a new facility contract filled out for the spring programs.

Historian Piper gave an update on the Potters Field Monument, stating that the statue will be placed sometime in May. Piper added that the Bicentennial Committee plans to add this monument into the events.

Discussion ensued on utilizing reclaimed graves and unused property within the cemetery. Law Counsel Leone expressed the need for the proper procedures to be followed in the event of reclaiming graves.

Engineer Marino agreed to meet Piper in the cemetery to figure out the logistics and to create a map to note what land is available for new graves.

LIAISON REPORTS **Deputy Mayor Eydt** stated that there will be a meeting with the Public Works and Union to negotiate a new three to four year contract before the start of the new budget.

Trustee Conde addressed that the updates being made to the Village Handbook are still in progress.

Trustee Marasco gave an update on the 2022 Jazz Festival, and planning for the upcoming Bicentennial event.

Mayor Welch gave an update on the frontier House, stating that the outside work is about 60% complete; once that is finished they will begin work on the inside.

NEW BUSINESS A motion was made by Trustee Conde seconded by Deputy Mayor Eydt and passed unanimously to approve the request made by Lewiston Fire Co. #1 for the following Conditional Memberships:

Gregory Scott Joseph, II
Emily G. Harrell
Michael S. Lombardo
Sandra Lombardo

DISCUSSION

Lewiston Garden Club – Update to Hennepin Park

Marianne Gittermann proposed updates that the Lewiston Garden Club would like to make to Hennepin Park, which they are able to do from a generous donation made by a member of the community. The plan will include replacing all benches with metal and remove the uneven bricks and replace with concrete.

A discussion ensued regarding the existing benches with memorial plaques on them which were donated. It was decided that the existing plaques will not be transferred to the new benches, and the village will attempt to contact those that have donated and ask what they would like to do with the bench.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Eydt seconded by Trustee Marasco and passed unanimously to approve the proposed improvements to Hennepin Park, at no cost to the village, courtesy of the Lewiston Garden Club.

475 Ridge Street – Historic Designation

Law Counsel Leone addressed a memo he sent regarding the historic designation of 475 Ridge Street; expressing his concern that the evaluation mandate as set forth in 15-105(b) of the Lewiston Village Code may not have been followed to the fullest extent, based on presented transcripts of the designation. Other than the fact that it is over 100 years old and was used by the bridge commission, there is no other historic significance documented. As an attorney in court, how would I defend this? I have a photo copy of the abstract of title from when the Village of Lewiston obtained the property; it does not state when it was built but can see names of prior owners.

A discussion ensued regarding the criteria required and procedures to follow in order for the property to be historically designated in accordance with the Village Code Book.

Mayor Anne Welch and Deputy Mayor Eydt both stated they are not opposed to the home being historically designated, but need the proper documentation and efficient information to base the designation on.

Peter Coppins, representing the Historic Preservation Commission, stated that it seems that they have not done their due diligence. Our board will discuss this further, complete the proper forms, and will move forward with this at the next meeting.

REPORTS **Superintendent Wills** stating that they are continuing work on clean up after the snowstorm, and working on equipment repair.

Law Counsel gave his opinion on a new accountant firm proposal for the village, stating that it appears to be a very impressive firm that represents many municipalities. My only concern is that it is so large, and suggest that one person and a back up be assigned to our account that we deal with on a regular basis. This will be discussed further at the February Work Session.

Engineer Marino stated that his design team is working on the Department of Public Works garage, and will be out for bid in February. We are also advancing Lewiston Landing. The charge stations are coming soon, and the Ninth Street

project will begin once we receive the stimulus money. We will have to coordinate with the county.

BOARD REPORTS **Trustee Marasco** acknowledged the loss Bruce Sutherland, a community activist and Village of Lewiston Board of Trustee.

Mayor Welch acknowledged Officer Jon Smith for his heroic efforts with rescuing a dog from Bonds Lake.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Village Board Work Session meeting will be held at 6:00pm on Monday, February 7, 2022.

The Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held at 6:00pm, immediately followed by the Planning Board meeting on Monday, February 14, 2022.

The Village Board of Trustees meeting will be held at 6:00pm on Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

ADJOURN A motion was made by Trustee Marasco seconded by Trustee Conde and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:11pm.

Shannon Fundis, Clerk