

# Village of Leicester

## October 16, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Briffa called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:**

**Mayor:** Barry Briffa

**Trustees:** Don Jacobs, Dan Christiano, Ken Rizzo

**Clerk-Treasurer:** Deborah Beardsley

**Deputy Clerk:** Sam Bodratti

**Fire Chief:** James Kane, President John Yasso

**Highway Superintendent:**

**Water Operator:**

**Zoning/Code Enforcement:**

**Residents:**

**EXCUSED:** Motion made by Trustee Christiano, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Rizzo to excuse Trustee Frantz due to illness.  
[Motion Carried 3-0]

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the September 18, 2023 Board Meeting were accepted on a motion by Trustee Rizzo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Jacobs. [Motion Carried 3-0]

The minutes of the September 25, 2023 Special Board Meeting were accepted on a motion by Trustee Christiano, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Jacobs. [Motion Carried 3-0]

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Fire Company Report:** President John Yasso presented the following report (see attached report):

- 3 Calls in the past month– 2 carbon monoxide calls and a motor vehicle crash at Perry Rd and Route 36.
- Training – Location on trucks of the tools and checking tools to make sure they work properly when needed (saws, fans, blowers, etc.).
- P135 – switch is waiting to be installed when repair truck is in this area.
- P133 – Engine serviced to replace injectors on the driver’s side. Previously done on the passenger side. Have seen some costs for repairs to this truck over the past year, however, the truck was originally obtained on a grant so there was no cost to taxpayers. All tools on the truck were provided by the Fire Company. Truck should be good for a bit now, and they were encouraged to make a plan to drive the trucks periodically and not let them sit between uses.
- Quotes received on Fire Hall roof repair/replacement for both shingles and metal for comparison along with gutters. Discussion continued as to when to repair, and which option would be best. Nothing inside is in immediate peril but it may be best to take care of it now rather than in the Spring as the price will likely increase. Consolidation would take a few years, so the building needs to be maintained. Both options are reasonable given the current roofing costs. Block chimney is not in use, and should be removed at the same time.

Motion made by Trustee Jacobs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Christiano to approve the quote from JJM Roofing to replace the roof and gutters on the back Fire Hall roof, for \$12,919 (\$10,925 roof plus \$1994 gutters). Quotes include a 5-year warranty. [Motion Carried 3-0]

- Meeting scheduled to close out Forestry grant in early November for \$1500 reimbursement.
- No news on FEMA Grant.

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- Letter signed from Mayor Briffa and Town Supervisor Fanaro for ISO. Obtained summary sheet from Website regarding most recent rating. Rating is 40.91 vs a top rate of 105 based on risk reduction points, Fire Department # of trucks, apparatus and who responds to calls, and 911 Communications Center. The higher the class rating number the lower a homeowner's insurance is. Last rating was in 2015. Fire Department added a new truck, Towns added water and hydrants, Village water line replacements, all these activities help to get the rating number up. Trustee Christiano asked if this was a cohesive evaluation of both departments servicing the district? President Yasso stated yes.
- Trustee Christiano questioned President Yasso, of all the calls made during the month of September how many were in the Town of Leicester. President Yasso stated that 100% of them were within the Town.

**Highway Department Report:** Following an earlier meeting with Superintendent Page, Mayor Briffa presented the following:

- Ditch clean out on Jones Bridge Road is on their agenda.
- Repair of three cracked blocks on Main Street in front of the Ayers building currently on hold.
- Two valves yet to be replaced at Pump House, once received.
- Curb box at Bob Smith's house. It was previously discussed to relocate the box out of the ditch.
- Carl Johnson's work is set, but now a new request for a stake out needs to be submitted as RG&E did not come to do their part of the stake out in a timely manner.
- Float has been installed at the Water Tower. That happened on October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- It was decided that Mark Bonadonna will remove the cherry tree to the right of the Ayers building that is leaning. When the planters are received the Town will install one at that location.
- Leaf pick-ups in the Village are scheduled.
- Coverage for Chris Young for October 16 and 17, 2023. Trustee Christiano questioned if they (Town) took responsibility for the water, and Mayor Briffa stated yes, as Highway Superintendent Page is an elected official, and work orders are given to the Town Clerk and passed to Superintendent Page.

### **Water Report:**

- Water Issue – The Board discussed the notification of the Town's action to shut off water at the Starr Park Meter. By letter dated August 31, 2022, received by email dated September 2, 2022 from the Town of Leicester, the Village was notified that: " The Town Board feels it to be an appropriate courtesy to notify you that the Town intends to change a portion of its supply from the Village of Leicester to the Town of York..... The Town intends to begin the transition in the coming weeks and will provide notice to the Village if the Town's plan changes." During a phone call with the Mayor and Supervisor Fanaro, Mr. Fanaro stated that the letter received was a "letter of intent" . Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley asked Mr. Fanaro if there was another letter that was sent but not received by the Village that gave a specific date of water termination, and he stated no, just the "letter of intent". Board discussion continued whether this was a breach of contract. Trustee Jacobs questioned why the Town would give taxpayer's money to the Town of York rather than keeping tax monies local. The original reason given for the change was bad water quality. It was again questioned where the \$306,000 went with no answers. Trustee Christiano stated the only way you would have an answer is if the State came in and did a forensic audit and no one knows if that will ever happen.

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**Zoning Report:** Mayor Briffa reports the following:

- No outstanding permits remain.
- Otis property has a collapsing front porch which still needs fencing off to prevent entry for safety.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Fire Contract with Town is still pending. Supervisor Fanaro advised Mayor Briffa he will call him regarding the Board decision on the contract Tuesday. Motion by Trustee Christiano, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Rizzo to accept the proposed contract only if it is unedited and the Town approves the requested amount of \$40,000. [Motion Carried 3-0] If the contract is not accepted by the Town, the Village will revisit this issue early in 2024.

Trustee Christiano questioned President Yasso in general when responding to a call, if Leicester shows up first do they maintain command control, or if Cuylerville shows up second, does Leicester concede control to Cuylerville? President Yasso states whomever shows up first retains command control. Trustee Christiano asked as a percentage of calls, how often does Leicester remain in command of the site. Fire Chief Kane stated that it can depend on time of day, location etc. Trustee Christiano asked if the percentage would be half of them, and Chief Kane stated he would not give a specific number, but President Yasso and Chief Kane agreed it would be more than a fourth. President Yasso stated that at times of a motor vehicle crash there could be dual command. Chief Kane would be managing Leicester's trucks and traffic control, where Cuylerville would be managing the EMS portion. Trustee Christiano's point to these questions is to bring merit to the idea that the Fire / EMS Study is meaningful, and it can't just be a "one size fits all" solution. It can't be what someone wants versus the actual situation. The point is that Leicester does quite a bit for the district as a whole and you cannot just sweep that under the rug and say it's not important.

Mayor Briffa stated that most people like consolidation, but that a long-term solution is a Fire District with one building. In Mt. Morris it is working great. Chief Kane stated that the key thing with a Fire District is that it takes it out of everyone's hands and allows the District to look further into the future regarding investments and long term purposes. Trustee Christiano agreed stating a Fire District puts the Fire Departments activities in the hands of the experts and they are in control of how it executes itself. Chief Kane stated that Fire District Board Members have to go to training for the financial side of management and President Yasso agreed because it is basically a business.

Mayor Briffa would like to look at consolidation but continue to push forward toward a Fire District after the study. Fire District establishment takes three to four years.

Trustee Jacobs asked if the Village had to maintain a Fire Hall if there is a Fire District. The thought is that that fire protection must be provided, but not necessarily located within the Village, but that would be investigated and Mt. Morris Mayor Joel Mike may be able to provide that answer as they just went through the process. President Yasso stated that the Fire Hall located within the Village is in a perfect location for the whole Town.

Budget – Mayor Briffa and Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley are continually monitoring the budget. Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley always provides Board members with copies of all the monthly financial statements.

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### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Deputy Clerk Bodratti emailed all ZBA members to get a meeting scheduled to discuss the Unified Solar Permit. There was no response to those emails from the members. Trustee Christiano, Zoning Board Chair, asked her to send out a second email notifying the members that grant money is tied to the permit and he will try to push to get this meeting scheduled.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

POP Money-POP (Pave Our Potholes program)- may be able to use the ditch clean out work in Oak Manor under this program per the Highway Superintendent Page. This program's allotment is \$2,095.02 and is "use it or lose it".

Route 36 corner near Presbyterian Church was not marked for a crosswalk when the recent paving took place. Mike Hynes, Regional DOT Manager, also noted that there is no signage currently to identify the crosswalk. He will work on getting both issues resolved. There is no cost for getting the signage installed. Mr. Hynes will also work to get the Traffic Safety council to respond to the Village's request for new crosswalks within the Village.

### **CLERKS REPORT:**

This month's NYSEG bill for street lighting included a \$2,497.99 charge which is the one-time charge for the Non-LED unexpired life for the LED conversion. The original cost was stated as \$4,744. Our NYSEG representative stated that the street lights have been updated and we should see the cost for lumens decrease by half. Estimated cost savings of \$170 approximately per month for electric usage. Any street lights that were on not on list we are not billed for them. If there are any lights that haven't been changed we can report the information to him to be addressed. For any lights that were incorrectly installed originally, the rep will be checking to see the status of when they will be replaced with the correct lights.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Trustee Rizzo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Jacobs to enter into Executive Session at 7:20 pm regarding employee issue. [Motion 3-0]

**EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Trustee Christiano, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Jacobs to exit Executive Session at 7:34 pm. [Motion Carried 3-0]

Motion made by Mayor Briffa, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Jacobs to eliminate line items A7510.1 Historian Personal Services and A7410.4 Historian Contractual Expense. [Motion Carried 3-0]

Motion made by Mayor Briffa, 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Rizzo to pay current Historian in the position a prorated salary of \$250 for time served. [Motion Carried 3-0]

### **AUDIT OF BILLS:**

Trustee Christiano motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Rizzo to accept the bills as audited. [Motion Carried 3-0]  
General Fund Vouchers 2950 - 2971 \$17,691.11    Water Fund Vouchers 1087 - 1098 \$42,393.62

# *Village of Leicester*

## **October 16, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting**

### **NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:**

Board of Trustees Meeting November 20, 2023, at 6:30 pm at Village Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Trustee Christiano motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Jacobs to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm.  
[Motion Carried 3-0]

Respectfully Submitted,  
Deborah Beardsley  
Clerk-Treasurer  
Village of Leicester

## 1. Activities

Number of calls in the past month ( Sept 18 – Oct 16) \_3\_ calls.

- 1) 9/1/23 Two vehicle MVC @ Perry Road and Rt. 36
- 2) 10/4/23 Co Detector activation @ 2832 Jones Bridge Road
- 3) 10/11/23 CO Detector activation @ 4860 River Road

September monthly training – Motor Tools (saws fans blowers, etc.) Location and check

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## 2. TRUCKS:

**2017 Pumper Truck 135** – Quick dump on back is sporadic working. Part is in. Repair to be done

**2006 Pumper Truck 134** - OK

**2006 Mini Pumper 133** – Engine service was needed and completed

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## 3. Fire hall:

1. Back Roof needs to have repairs - Leaks - Contractor to provide a quote – new quotes from contractor received
  2. Backup Generator?? – Wait Till Fire and EMS study is completed
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## 4. Equipment

A) Need to order 2 more sets of gear for next budget year 2023-24. 7-9 months delivery time – Estm. \$5500.00

B) Ordered equipment for the Forestry Grant (\$3000) \$1500 / \$1500 match –

\*7-12-23 most of the items are here – Invoices total \$3028.77

\* 8-14-23 contacting Forest Ranger

\* 10-16-23 Meeting with Ranger in November to close out grant.

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## 5. Other items

A) **Application for 2022 FEMA grant** is submitted. Total \$190,884 for 16 air packs and spare cylinders

\* 10/16/23 No response yet

C) **Local Gov Efficiency** - Fire and EMS study grant approved for \$19,500 at Feb. meetings Town and Village. Total for the study is \$39,000.00

\*6-7-23 Final application signed by Supervisor Fanaro and sent back to DOS

\*7-17-23 CRG will start study – meeting with Fire Depts. week of July 24, 2023

\* 8-14-23 Sub-Committee meeting with CRG group to kick off study information

\*9-18-23 CRG is meeting with officials to get data

\*10/3/23 Emailed and sent a letter to ISO for data on Town and Village ISO ratings.

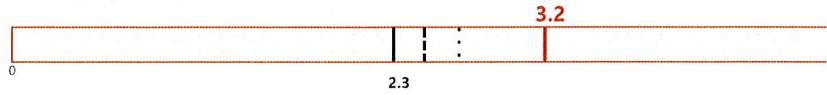
Current Overall ISO rating is 40.91 points of a possible 105. Last updated 4/1//2015

These points represent the summary of the major categories of the PPC evaluation.

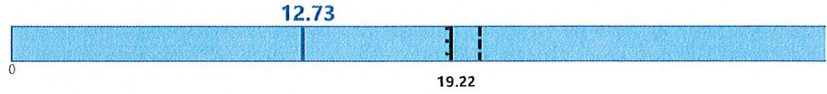


Overall PPC Value: **06/6Y**  
Effective Date: **4/1/2015**

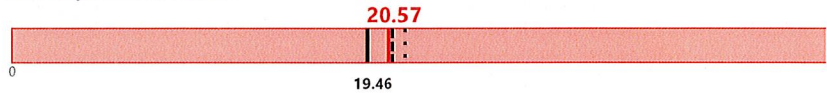
**Community Risk Reduction Points (CRR)**



**Water Points**



**Fire Department Points**



**Emergency Communication Center Points (ECC)**



<b>3.2</b>	+	<b>12.73</b>	+	<b>20.57</b>	+	<b>6.27</b>	+	<b>-1.86</b>	=	<b>40.91</b>
CRR		Water		Fire		ECC		Divergence		Total
Points		Points		Points		Points		Points		Points

Compare the following:  Peer Group ⓘ  State Group  Nationwide

<b>Leicester TFPD</b> Fire Protection Area	▼	<b>2</b> Number of 3 Story Buildings	<b>Communities: 2</b> <a href="#">View Communities</a>
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