

Village of Leicester

November 20, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Briffa called the meeting to order at 6:27 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Barry Briffa
Trustees: Don Jacobs, Dan Christiano, Ken Rizzo, Tom Frantz
Clerk-Treasurer: Deborah Beardsley
Deputy Clerk: Sam Bodratti
Fire Chief: James Kane, President John Yasso
Highway Superintendent:
Water Operator:
Zoning/Code Enforcement:
Residents: Karen Roffe, Jason Yasso

EXCUSED:

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 16, 2023 Board Meeting were accepted on a motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs. [Motion Carried 4-0] Per the October minutes, it was reported that all the streetlights were replaced with LED lights and the Village has paid for the replacement, but it appears that all lights have not been replaced as stated by the representative. Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley will again reach out to the NYSEG representative to seek further explanation and advise the Village Board is not pleased that payment was requested and made subsequent to the total LED upgrade being completed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

- 5 Calls in the past month – 1-Mini-bike Crash; 3- motor vehicle crashes and a fire alarm activation at Seneca Foods bunk house.
- Training – Air packs.
- P135 – switch repaired. Other trucks are currently fine.
- Waiting on contact from JJM roofing for Fire Hall roof repair/replacement to be scheduled.
- Forestry Grant now closed and waiting for the \$1500 reimbursement to be received by Village. Grant application for 2023 has been submitted and will be the same.
- Nothing yet on FEMA Grant.
- Turnout Gear Express Bill to be received for turnout gear that needed cleaning after MVC.
- Fire / EMS Study- Sent financial information regarding budget. Now they are waiting for the same from Cuylerville. Discussion regarding when final report will be received, and the thought is that after individual department meetings take place, it could be possibly be January 2024.

Highway Department Report: Mayor Briffa presented the following:

- Oak Manor project is completed, and the bill received will be submitted for POP (Pave Our Potholes) reimbursement from NYS.
- Assisted with valves replacement last Thursday at Pump House.
- Leaf pick up has been completed and the Town Highway did a great job. Any further leaves will need to be bagged for pick up.
- Curb box at Bob Smith's house still pending.

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- Work is caught up and the Inter-Municipal Contract with the Town of Leicester expires the 31st of December 2023.

Water Report:

- Outstanding Water Bills – Board has a copy of all outstanding water bills. Next penalty will be calculated on December 4, 2023.

Zoning Report: Mayor Briffa reports the following:

- Otis property permit is still outstanding but porch has been removed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Budget – Most recent budget printouts provided to Board by Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley. Mayor Briffa has already begun working on next year’s budget. Will need to discuss overages as highlighted as well as the Main Street Grant and Dog Control. January to June 2024 is the next payment budgeted.

Town of Leicester Budget – All Village Board members were provided with a copy of the Town Budget which was passed. Trustee Christiano stated he had shared his concerns at the most recent Town Board meeting. Next Village Water Payment of \$45,000 was budgeted. Also discussed Fire Department contract budget breakdown between Cuylerville and Leicester. Trustee Christiano stated that the discussion at the Town Board meeting that is not reflected in the Town’s budget is that there is a “pool of fire money” of \$107,000 and they are going to look at it as a pool of money for fire support as opposed to each individual fire company having a specified amount. Town Board member Yasso stated that was the way the budget was written and that he and Town Board member Roffe did not catch that ahead of time, and Town Board member Roffe voiced her agreement, and that is the intent. Mayor Briffa stated that his attendance at the Town’s Board meeting will be greater so that the Town and Village can work together better. Both Town Board members expressed their appreciation.

Meeting with Rich White – Meeting scheduled on December 4 2023, to discuss contracts up for renewal. All Village Board members are invited to attend. Mayor Briffa discussed sitting down with the Town Board and Supervisor every two or three months.

SAM Grant- Pressed Senator Helming for a letter (provided to Board members) pressing for the approval and release of the grant funds.

WIIA Grant – Results of the grant funding of \$600,000 should be determined in January if we are approved or denied. Funds would be used for water lines on South Parkway, Pleasant St and what else is needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Contract with Town of Leicester – Renewal of contract discussion. Board members unanimously agreed not to approve the edited version of the contract. Chief Kane asked if the contract would be renegotiated. Trustee Christiano explained that at the prior Board meeting the Board had decided not to approve the contract if it were returned as an edited version.

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Association Dinner in Avon – Scheduled for Thursday, December 14, 2023 at the Avon Inn. Board members to advise Clerk – Treasurer Beardsley by December 8th if anyone plans to attend or not.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Crosswalks – Deputy Bodratti received a letter from the State regarding the crosswalks and their review of the situation (copies to all Board members). New quotes received from Hume in the amount of \$20,000. Potential to obtain more quotes as price has increased. ARC-Glow may be able to help pay for crosswalk on Route 36 and corner of Market Street.

Lawn Mower – Village needs to look into purchasing a new mower. Current mower is over 10 years old and has need of new tires and has a bad oil leak. Clerk – Treasurer will obtain State bid cost comparison for 60” and 72” replacement mowers as well as possible costs at other dealers.

CLERKS REPORT:

Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley presented a 6-month budget spreadsheet outlining areas that are running short and asked if anyone had any questions. No questions were presented.

Deputy Clerk Bodratti has been working with Louise Wadsworth on the Main Street Grant for the Village banners and planters. Ms. Wadsworth handled the signs which are on order. The Village has ordered the planters. Louise sent photos of Letchworth State Park for consideration for banners. The Village needs to select 2 winter/fall and 2 summer photos for the banners (a total of 12 banners). Deputy Clerk Bodratti will print the photos out to view for selection to advise Ms. Wadsworth, who will purchase the rights to the photos. The one issue that may be a problem is ordering the trees for the planters, which may need to be purchase outside the grant deadline. Trees can't be purchased now and held until Spring due to changing costs.

Trustee Jacobs noted that the flags are not holding up well. Flags were purchased in each of the last 2 years and several of them are old and battered. Those flags will go to proper disposal at the flag return at the Fire Department. Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley will investigate costs of better flags for next year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jason Yasso stated the Village looks great and driving through during this fall season, all the work that's been done, obviously with your leadership. Mr. Yasso further mentioned the tree trimming, Veteran's signs, the Park looks great. Mayor Briffa made special mention to thank Mark Bonadonna for the fabulous job he does, and for Trustee Jacobs for his help with the removal of the flags, etc. Trustee Jacobs will help Mark to cut back the brush around the water tower to help make the overflow area more visible.

Chief Kane stated that he noticed damage on Route 36 across from Starr Park was spraypainted sometime over the past weekend. A picture will be provided to the Village Clerk for submission to insurance for repair.

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Rizzo, 2nd by Trustee Christiano to enter into Executive Session at 7:00 pm regarding contracts. [Motion 4-0]

EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to exit Executive Session at 7:34 pm. [Motion Carried 4-0]

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Fire Department Contract with Town of Leicester - Motion made by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo reject the edited Fire Department contract with the Town of Leicester for \$26,000. [Motion Carried 4-0]

AUDIT OF BILLS:

Trustee Rizzo motioned, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs to accept the bills as audited. [Motion Carried 4-0]
General Fund Vouchers 2972 – 2997 \$16,208.97 Water Fund Vouchers 1099 – 1107 \$4,336.86

WATER LINE SURVEY – Federal Government is requiring all municipalities across the country to look at water service lines and identify either lead or unknown lines by relying on records, the public or going out to resident’s homes and looking at what is going from the ground to the meter and from the main to the curb box. The dilemma is if there are no irrefutable records of what our water main is and everything to the valve, the assumption has to be there is lead there and therefore, anything that’s galvanized going to a resident’s home would be required to be changed. Mayor Briffa stated that when water lines were replaced on Oak Manor, South Street, North Street, Mahoney Street, etc. and the line from the tank to the tracks would all be new. Discussion continued regarding when and where water lines had been replaced. Any customer of the Village will need to be reviewed. Lines put in after 1986 should be fine, as that is when the regulation changed, and lead was no longer used. If the records are questionable then further in person investigation is required. Deputy Clerk Bodratti is working on a mailer to customers to acquire further information.

Mayor Briffa mentioned that RGE is coming through to check gas meters in basements and put in the self-reader meters. Discussion continued about gas meters being inside the basement or if they need to be removed. The project is reportedly behind schedule.

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:

Board of Trustees Meeting December 18, 2023, at 6:30 pm at Village Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Jacobs motioned, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm. [Motion Carried 4-0]

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Beardsley
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Leicester

1. Activities

Number of calls in the past month (Oct 16 – Nov 20) 5 calls.

- 1) 10-22-23 Mini bike crash – 2886 Cuyler Road
- 2) 10-28-23 One car MVC @ 1942 Perry Road
- 3) 10-31-23 Fire alarm activation at Seneca Foods Bunk House
- 4) 11-13-23 MVC at the intersection of Peoria Rd and Rt. 36 York Road
- 5) 11-17-23 MVC at the intersection of Main St and Mt. Morris Road

October monthly training – Air packs

2. TRUCKS:

2017 Pumper Truck 135 – Quick dump on back is sporadic working. Switch has been replaced. OK now

2006 Pumper Truck 134 - OK

2006 Mini Pumper 133 – OK

3. Fire hall:

1. Back Roof needs to have repairs - Leaks - Contractor to provide a quote – new quotes from contractor received

* Quote approved at Board meeting 10-16-23. Job is scheduled with JJM Roofing

2. Backup Generator?? – Wait Till Fire and EMS study is completed

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) Equipment for the 2022 Forestry Grant (\$3000) \$1500 / \$1500 match is here. NYS Ranger has reviewed invoices and equipment. Grant closed.

C) Application for 2023 Forestry grant has been submitted.

5. Other items

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

* 11/20/23 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

11/16/23 Financial information for Village and LVFD sent in for review