VILLAGE OF LOWVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2020

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lowville was called to order at 4:00 PM on May 20, 2020 by Mayor Joseph Beagle.

Note: In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 202.1, the meeting was held via videoconference / teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Roll Call:

Meeting included the following board members:

Mayor Joseph Beagle *Trustee Edward Murphy* *Trustee Danny Salmon*
Trustee Charles Truax *Trustee Timothy Widrick*

Others:
Paul Denise *Pam Roes* *Atty. Joseph Russell* *Nick Altmire*
Katie Malinowski *Casandra Buell*

Orders of the Day:

- None.

Approval of Minutes/Excuse Board Members:

Motion by Trustee Truax, seconded by Trustee Widrick to approve the minutes of the April 15th, 2020 regular meeting. All in favor.

Approval of Vouchers:

Motion by Trustee Salmon, seconded by Trustee Murphy to approve of down payment towards F550 truck which is still in Buffalo waiting for the dump box to be installed. Payment is included in Abstract of vouchers as presented. All in favor.

Motion by Trustee Salmon, seconded by Trustee Murphy to approve the vouchers as audited. All in favor.

A #012	$ 114,202.96
F #012	$ 57,481.91
G #012	$ 29,254.87
HA #012	$ 571,089.89

Unfinished Business:

a. **Five Street/Utility Reconstruction Project**:

- Supt. Denise reported that they have completed the water/sewer on Trinity Ave. from North State St. to Park Ave. and are now working on Trinity Ave. from E. State St. to Park Ave. They are planning to pave next Tuesday from N. State St. to Park Ave.

- Supt. Denise has been finalizing a punch list with the inspector in order to get everything corrected.

b. **WWTP Upgrades**:

- Phase II:
  - Mayor Beagle reported that GYMO is working on an amendment with NYSEFC for leftover finances from Phase I to be applied to Phase II.

c. **Village Water System:**

- Watson Water Agreements: - The Municipal Board recommended approval of agreement as drafted.

  Motion by Trustee Truax, seconded by Trustee Salmon to approve of water agreement draft as presented and for Atty. Russell to forward agreement to the Town of Watson. All in favor.

- Groundwater Development Project: - Mayor Beagle reported that GYMO is working with Jay Billings on the bidding process. They are hoping to have bidding out by the first part of June. Supt. Denise reported that the access road improvements have been completed by the Village to the well site. There will be some additional work needed at the well site itself.

- Water Supply Investigation - (Property Owner Proposal): - No Update.

d. **Outdoor Street Lighting LED Conversion Program:**

- Mayor Beagle reported that the Village has still not received the pricing and buyback documents from National Grid. NYPA has stated that the project will be at a slower pace because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

e. **Local Law Amendment – Temporary Permits:**

- Correspondence – Office of Lewis County Planning – re: Notice of approval of proposed text amendment to zoning law that would allow temporary zoning permits.

- Environmental Assessment Form - Attorney Russell went through part 2 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form answers with the Board.

  Motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Truax to adopt a negative declaration under SEQR. All in favor.

- Resolution – Adoption of Local Law Amendment – "Temporary Permits":

  Motion by Trustee Widrick, seconded by Trustee Murphy to approve resolution of adoption of Temporary Permits local law as presented. All in favor.

f. **Local Law Amendment – Definition of "Junkyard" found in Zoning Code:**

Motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Salmon to set a public hearing for local law amendment as listed above on June 17th, 2020 at 4:00 PM. All in favor.

g. **Local Law Amendment – No Parking on Church Street:**

Motion by Trustee Salmon, seconded by Trustee Widrick to set a public hearing for local law amendment as listed above on June 17th, 2020 at 4:00 PM. All in favor.

h. **NYSEG – Ross Road:**

- Atty. Russell reported that he had spoken with somebody at that NYSEG's counsel's office, and she indicated she had to get together with her team and would email him the status. He has not received anything yet. NYSEG had previously agreed with the Village's position, but no progress has occurred. Trustees asked Atty. Russell to continue to push the issue with NYSEG.

i. **Bus Shelters:**

- The County approved a resolution to authorize their Attorney to move forward with a draft for an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Towns and Villages concerning the shelters. Casandra Buell, Lewis County Senior Planner, reported that she has been working with the NYSDOT for proper permitting and easements. Ms. Buell reported that shelters would not be able to be installed until next year.

j. **DRI Funding Application:**

- Trustee Widrick reported that they are still working on the DRI application and are still taking proposals. Casandra Buell reported on some new projects that have been presented for the DRI application. The award announcement is expected to be delayed.

New Business:

a. Kraft Surcharges:

- February 2020 - $0
- March 2020 - $0
- April 2020 - $0

b. Summer Recreation Program:

- Mayor Beagle reported that in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NYMIR risk management team is recommending that there not be a summer recreation program this year. Mayor Beagle reported that the Town of Lowville will be discussing and voting on this issue at their meeting tomorrow.

Motion by Trustee Truax, seconded by Trustee Widrick to cancel the 2020 summer recreation program. All in favor.

c. Budget Amendments:

Motion by Truax, seconded by Trustee Salmon to approve budget amendments as presented. All in favor.

d. Fire Contract:

Motion by Trustee Truax, seconded by Trustee Murphy to authorize the Mayor to sign the Fire Contract with the Lowville Fire Department. All in favor.

e. Restaurant Outdoor Seating:

- Trustee Widrick reported that he had been approached about possible outdoor restaurant seating to alleviate some of the COVID-19 social distancing regulations. He will be researching this issue.

f. Noise Issues:

- Trustee Widrick stated that he had also been approached about noise issues in the Village and he wanted the Board to know that he is researching this also and will report back.

Correspondence:

a. NYSEFC – re: Approval of Change Order #7.

b. Email – Director of Community Services / Transitional Living Services – re: Commendation of Village Police Department officers.

Officers & Committee Reports:

a. **Village Attorney:**

- None.

b. **Mayor**:

- Mayor Beagle reported that the 30-year lease with the Lewis Co. Ag Society for the wooden fairground playground is expiring in July. He has talked to Doug Hanno about the Fair Board taking over the playground. If the Fair Board declines to take it over, the Village Board will have to decide what they would like to do concerning the lease.

c. **Clerk/Treasurer**:

- None.

d. **Chief of Police**:

- None.

e. **Superintendent**:

- Supt. Denise reported that spring clean-up went well. Plans are to continue a twice a month clean-up this summer.
- Applications for a MEO position are being accepted until Friday.
- The waste from clean-ups was shredded at the WWTP and Supt. Denise is looking into ways of using the shredded debris, which would make good composting material. Supt. Denise stated that he would like to have the shredding done yearly to prevent having such large piles of waste.

f. **Capital / Future Planning**

- The parking meter issue will be tabled at this time.

g. **Personnel:**

- None.

h. **Finance:**

- Trustee Murphy reported that bank statement audits are completed for February and March.

i. **Liaisons:**

- Fire Department:
  - None.
- Police Department:
  - None.
- Joint Planning Bd./ZBA:
  - None.
- Municipal Board:
  - The next Municipal Board meeting will be held on June 9th, at 6:00 pm.
- Town:
  - None.
- County:
  - Trustee Salmon reported that there's a project being discussed on the County level regarding drainage on the backside of the hospital. Supt. Denise plans to attend a meeting at 2:00 pm tomorrow regarding this issue to express concerns regarding the Village drainage system in that area. He stated that the County should consider building be a retention pond.
- Recreation:
  - Discussed under "New Business".

Public Comment:

- None.

Executive Session:

- None.

Adjournment:

5:12 PM - Motion by Trustee Truax, seconded by Trustee Widrick to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by: _____
PJR *Clerk/Treasurer*