VILLAGE OF LOWVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2021

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 March 17, 2021 by Mayor Joseph Beagle.

Roll Call:

Meeting included the following board members:

Mayor Joseph Beagle *Trustee Edward Murphy* *Trustee Charles Terrillion*
Trustee Timothy Widrick *Via Zoom: Trustee Danny Salmon*

Others:
Paul Denise *Randy Roggie* *Pam Roes* *Kevin Bamann*
Matt Cervini *Henry Avallone* *Richard Defone* *Cassie Forbus*
Joe Austin *Via Zoom: Mickey Dietrich*

Orders of the Day:

- Kevin Brouillard, Lewis County Community Development Specialist – re: Clean Energy Communities Leadership Round. Mr. Brouillard gave a presentation and overview of the NYSERDA grant program that is available to Municipalities.

- Public Hearing: Proposed Local Law – Tax Cap Override.

  4:05 PM – Motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Widrick to open the public hearing for the proposed Tax Cap Override Local Law. All in favor.

  4:46 PM – Motion by Trustee Murphy seconded by Trustee Widrick to close the public hearing. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes/Excuse Board Members:

Motion by Trustee Widrick, seconded by Trustee Murphy to approve the minutes of the February 17th, 2021 regular meeting. All in favor.

Approval of Vouchers:

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

A #011	$109,691.69
F #011	$ 53,734.94
G #011	$ 30,312.51
HA #011	$ 9,891.51

Unfinished Business:

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

- Mr. Bamann reported that a punch list was given to Highlander Construction and they are hoping to have a meeting with them soon. The major items on the list are the road surfaces of Trinity Ave. and Shady Ave. Highlander Construction has requested a substantial completion status from the Village that has not been granted.

b. **Phase II WWTP Upgrades**:

- NYSEFC has approved of the engineering plans and specs report. Mr. Bamann reported that they hope to have bids out for the project by early May.
    - Municipal Solutions Agreement - re: CWSRF Application for funding, Long-term closing and Fiscal Services for the Phase II WWTP project.

      Motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Terrillion to authorize the Mayor to sign the fiscal services agreement with Municipal Solutions for the WWTP Phase II project. All in favor.

c. **Groundwater Well Development Project:**

- Mr. Bamann reported that the tree clearing has been completed at the watershed. He attended the Town of Watson Planning Board meeting in February and he expects them to act on the application at their March 31st meeting.
- NYSDOH is still reviewing the report from Jay Billings on the wells. The engineers are waiting for NYSDOH comments before the design can move forward.

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

- Mayor Beagle reported that he had spoken with the National Grid representative and she stated that the paperwork was to be submitted to the Public Service Commission later this month for their approval.

e. **Manufactured Homes – Zoning:**

- Trustee Widrick reported that he had forwarded his zoning amendment recommendations to Atty. Russell for review and has not heard anything back as of yet.

f. **Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan:**

- The Village has completed steps required pursuant to Executive Order 203 and developed a plan to be submitted to New York State authorities.
- Resolution – re: Adoption of the Village of Lowville Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan.

  Motion by Trustee Widrick, seconded by Trustee Salmon to approve the Village of Lowville Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan established in compliance with Executive Order 203 and to forward plan to Governor Cuomo and NYS Budget Director Robert Mujica Jr. All in favor.

g. **Public Employer Health Emergency Plan (Pandemic Operations Plan):**

- The CSEA Union representatives responded that they had reviewed the plan and gave a few changes that they wanted. The revisions were made as requested.

- Resolution – re: Approval of Public Employer Health Emergency Plan.

  Motion by Trustee Terrillion, seconded by Trustee Murphy to approve of the Village of Lowville Public Employer Health Emergency Plan and to authorize the Mayor to sign the plan. All in favor.

h. **Downtown Public Parking Signs:**

- Supt. Denise reported that he had sent pictures to NYSDOT of where the Village wants the signs to be placed. He has not heard back from them yet.

i. **Proposed Local Law #2-2021 – Tax Cap Override:**

  Motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Widrick to adopt Local Law #2-2021 for the Tax Cap Override for the 2021-22 Budget year. All in favor.

j. **Citizen of the Year:**

- Trustee Salmon reported that no nominations have been received yet. He is recommending to the Board that the criteria be changed to also allow the nominations to be submitted from people who reside outside of the Village. The person nominated still must be a Village resident. The Board was in agreement.

k. **Music in the Park:**

- Trustee Salmon reported that he will be discussing with Ashley Waite at Lewis County Public Health as to where we stand moving forward in having the park as a music venue this summer. Plans are to have the music concerts on Tuesday nights which will be the same night as the American Legion's car shows.

<u>New Business:</u>

a. Kraft Surcharge:

- January 2021 - $2,500.

  Motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Widrick to approve of surcharge for January 2021 in the amount of $2,500. All in favor.

b. IMA – Sunset Ave/Hillcrest Circle – Rate Increase Request:

- The Town of Lowville has requested an updating of the Inter-municipal cooperation agreement to provide water to the Sunset/Hillcrest area to include an increase in the charge to the Village from $1.00 to $1.50 per 100 cubic feet for water transported from the Town's District #1 lines. The Town is installing a filtration system for District #1 which is resulting in the increase in the benefit assessment cost to District #1's customers.

  Motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Terrillion to authorize the modification of the IMA with the Town as listed above for increase in charge as requested. All in favor.

c. Tentative 2021-2022 Budget:

- The 2021-2022 Tentative budgets of the General, Water and Sewer funds were presented to the Board members by Clerk-Treas. Roes.

  Motion by Trustee Salmon, seconded by Trustee Murphy to schedule a public hearing for the 2021-2022 budget on April 7th, 2021 at 4:00 PM. All in favor.

Correspondence:

a. NYSEFC – re: Notification of 'Engineering Report Eligibility' for the Phase II WWTP project.

Officers & Committee Reports:

a. **Village Attorney:**

- None.

b. **Mayor**:

- Mayor Beagle reported that 'Tug Hill Roasters' did receive a grant to be used toward development of the old jail site.

- Mayor Beagle reported that he had attended a webinar concerning the stimulus monies expected to be coming to municipalities and the purposes for which the monies can be spent.

c. **Clerk/Treasurer**:

- None.

d. **Chief of Police**:

- Chief Roggie reported that he had placed reports in the Board members folders.

e. **Superintendent**:

- Supt. Denise requested that a 2005 Rigid Sewer Camera be declared as surplus. The Village owns a new sewer camera that is currently being used.

  Motion by Trustee Widrick, seconded by Trustee Terrillion to declare a 2005 Rigid Sewer Camera as surplus. All in favor.

- Supt. Denise gave information on a new loader with a snowblower that has been included in the new tentative budget. This loader is at NYS contract pricing.

f. **Capital / Future Planning**

- Trustee Murphy reported that at the last Comprehensive Plan meeting there was discussion with the Historical Society and also discussion regarding housing.

g. **Personnel:**

- None.

h. **Finance:**

- Bank statement audits have been caught up.

i. **Liaisons:**

- Fire Department:
  - Trustee Salmon reported that the Fire Department approved their insurance carrier for another year.
- Police Department:
  - Trustee Widrick reported that he discussed department issues with Chief Roggie by phone.
  - Trustee Salmon asked about the License Plate Reader. Chief Roggie stated that it is a software related issue and he is unable to get tech support for it because of its age.
  - Mayor Beagle reported that Tug Hill Commission will help the Village look into a Traffic Safety Grant for speed signs and pedestrian crosswalk signage.
- Joint Planning Bd./ZBA:
  - None.
- Municipal Board:
  - The next Municipal Board meeting will be held on April 13th, 2021 at 6:00 pm.
- Town:
  - None.
- County:
  - None.
- Recreation:
  - Supt. Denise reported that the skating at the rink went well this year. LACS would like to use the rink for the next couple of weeks and then it will be shut down for the season.
- RACOG:
  - Trustee Widrick reported that the last meeting included a presentation from a US Border Patrol representative. The new border crossing in Alex Bay will be open this summer. He spoke about possible changes to traffic that may occur in this area.
  - The April meeting will be about the Clean Energy Grants and the steps for municipalities to follow.

Public Comment:

- Cassie Forbus, Coalition Coordinator from Up! Coalition of Lewis County, spoke of concerns regarding a second smoke/vape shop that has opened up in the Lowville downtown area. Both of these shops are within the 1500 feet of a school, which requires

them to not have certain things on their signs and exteriors in order to entice youth. Both shops are in violation of NY State law. The Coalition would like to work with the Village for future movement in establishing regulations through zoning changes, especially with the possibility of the legalization of marijuana. Trustee Widrick will research and pursue these zoning changes and report back to the Board.

- Richard Defone reported that he had spoken to the State about the 2 ft. fog line on Bostwick Street and the State will come and look at the lines on Bostwick Street to see about redoing the parking area. He stated that he has been following up on the Renzi truck parking on Shady Ave. He commented on what he feels is the lack of transparency by the Village.

Executive Session:

- None.

Adjournment:

5:25 PM - Motion by Trustee Widrick, seconded by Trustee Murphy to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by: _____
PJR *Clerk/Treasurer*