VILLAGE OF LOWVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2024

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 January 17th, 2024 by Mayor Joseph Beagle.

Roll Call:

Meeting included the following board members:

Mayor Joseph Beagle *Trustee Anthony Adsit* *Trustee Charles Terrillion*
Trustee Timothy Widrick *Trustee Danny Salmon*

Others:

Paul Denise	*Daryl Ortlieb*	*Brittany Vinette*	*Pam Roes*
Henry Avallone	*Vincent Nortz*	*Mickey Dietrich*	*Dennis Bishop*
Carol Leviker	*Casandra Buell*	*Ryan Piche*	

Orders of the Day:

- Ryan Piche and Casandra Buell presented information to the Board regarding the proposed Rail to Trail project and particularly the Village portion. Mr. Piche reported that the County has a signed Purchase Agreement with GVT. The Purchase Agreement is contingent upon the approval from the Federal Government's Surface Transportation Board. They anticipate approval soon. He stated that the project aligns with a number of items in the Village's Comprehensive Plan which was adopted in 2022 and also the County's Comprehensive Plan which was adopted in 2009. Ms. Buell gave further information regarding the Lewis County's 2023 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application which was submitted for a non-motorized path in the Village of Lowville. She presented maps of the proposed path – Trailhead at northern Village line with entrance from NYS Rte. 812 to end point on River Street.

Approval of Minutes/Excuse Board Members:

Motion by Trustee Salmon, seconded by Trustee Adsit to approve the minutes of the December 20th, 2023 regular meeting. All in favor.

Approval of Vouchers:

Motion by Trustee Widrick, seconded by Trustee Terrillion to approve the vouchers as audited. All in favor.

A #009	$ 44,797.76
F #009	$ 137,910.58
G#009	$ 26,040.38
HA#009	$ 231,342.89

Unfinished Business:

a. **Phase II WWTP Upgrades:**

- Municipal Solutions Contract Amendment:

  Motion by Trustee Terrillion, seconded by Trustee Widrick to approve additional fee of $5,000 associated with Fiscal Services required for the remaining long-term NYSEFC and ESD grant administration. All in favor.

- Closeout docs have been received by GYMO from all contractors.

b. **Groundwater Well Development Project:**

- S. C. Spencer is trying to schedule the start-up of the generator. GYMO is working on closeout docs with Manfred Construction.

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

- Mayor Beagle reported that NYPA now says they will be here on the 2nd or 3rd week of February to install the last 2 new lights.

d. **Zoning Change:**

- Trustee Widrick reported that he had met with Kathy Manning to review the 'Handicap Ramps' exemption. No updates on the 'Driveway' definition.

New Business:

a. **Kraft Surcharges:**
- Water: December 2023 – none
- Sewer: December 2023 – none

b. **Sidewalk Snow Removal:**

- Trustee Salmon spoke of the current local law regarding snow removal from sidewalks (§ 161-9). The Board may research other municipal local laws to determine if modification should be made to the Village's law.

Correspondence:

a. Ward Dailey - Lewis County Office of Building & Fire Codes – re: Zoning Review of reuse of building and lands located at 7466 South State St. Mr. Ward states that the proposed re-use of the former Ford Nortz & Virkler auto dealership by Empire Jeep & Chrysler for an auto dealership is not subject to a Zoning Permit.

b. RACOG Updates (January 2024):

c. RACOG – River Area Economic Visioning Summit – re: Thursday April 27, 2023 Agenda.

Officers & Committee Reports:

a. **Village Attorney:**

- None.

b. **Mayor**:

- None.

c. **Clerk/Treasurer**:

- Mrs. Roes presented the Treasurer's Report for December 2023 to the Board.

d. **Chief of Police**:

- Chief Ortlieb presented to the Board a yearly report of complaints the Department has responded to.
- Chief Ortlieb reported that new police officer candidates will be taking the agility test on January 24th.

e. **Superintendent**:

- Supt. Denise stated 'Winter Reminders':
  - The sidewalks are to be cleared within 48 hours of a snowfall.
  - It is illegal to put snow in the roadways.
  - No overnight parking on Village Streets from 3:00 AM to 6:00 AM.

f. **Capital / Future Planning**

- None.

g. **Personnel:**

- Executive Session.

h. **Finance:**

- None.

i. **Liaisons:**

- Fire Department:
  - Trustee Salmon reported that the new fire truck has arrived.
  - Mayor Beagle reported on a leak in the roof of the Fire Department which will be patched. There is also a portion of the roof that may need to be replaced. The contractor will take a look and prepare an estimate on replacement of that portion.
  - Supt. Denise reported on a possible grant opportunity for the Fire Department. Funds could possibly be used towards the entranceway apron into the bay and/or the roof.
- Police Department:
  - None.
- Joint Planning Bd./ZBA:

- None.

- Municipal Board:
  - None.
- Town:
  - None.
- County:
  - None.
- Recreation:
  - The skating rink is open at the fairgrounds.
- RACOG:
  - The next meeting will be on January 24th at 6:00 PM at the Village of Copenhagen. The Town of Watson membership request will be discussed.
  - Mickey Dietrich reported that they are continuing to work with BOCES on the Water/Wastewater Operator Licensing program. A curriculum will be drafted to see what the program will look like.

Public Comment:

- Carol Leviker spoke of overgrown hedges on the corner of Cascade Ave. and Stowe St. which are blocking vision and are a safety issue. She spoke of her neighbor's fence which causes an obstruction when coming out of her driveway. She asks the Board to drive up her driveway to have a better understanding. She also spoke of National Grid's new pole on Jefferson Street which has a cut pole attached to it by straps, which is a safety issue.

- Henry Avallone spoke of citizens' responsibility to remove snow from around fire hydrants.

Executive Session:

Motion by Trustee Terrillion, seconded by Trustee Adsit to enter executive session for a personnel appointment discussion at 5:12 PM. All in favor.

Motion by Trustee Terrillion, seconded by Trustee Adsit to exit executive session at 5:30 PM. All in favor.

Action:

Motion by Trustee Salmon, seconded by Trustee Adsit to schedule a special meeting on February 12th @ 10:00 AM. All in favor.

Adjournment:

5:31 PM - Motion by Trustee Adsit, seconded by Trustee Salmon to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by: _____
PJR