

Village of Leicester

December 18, 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, Ken Rizzo, Tom Frantz
Clerk-Treasurer: Deborah Beardsley
Deputy Clerk: Sam Bodratti
Fire Chief: James Kane
Highway Superintendent: Russ Page
Water Operator:
Zoning/Code Enforcement:
Residents:

EXCUSED: Motion made by Trustee Frantz, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo to excuse Dan Christiano. [Motion Carried 3-0]

MINUTES: The minutes of the November 20, 2023 Board Meeting were accepted on a motion by Trustee Rizzo, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs. [Motion Carried 3-0] Minutes of the December 4, 2023 meeting with Supervisor-Elect Rich White were accepted on a motion by Trustee Jacobs, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo. [Motion Carried 3-0]

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire Company Report: President Yasso submitted the attached report.

- 2 Calls in the past month
- Training – Scene size-up.
- 2022 Forestry Grant money to be sent to Village office.
- 2023 Forestry Grant has been submitted.
- FEMA Grant for 2022 has been denied.
- Fire / EMS Study- First draft review/vision meeting scheduled for December 21, 2023 with each fire department. Final presentation should be in January 2024.
- Fire Contract with Town of Leicester pending further negotiations. Fire protection service will continue.

Fire Chief James Kane reported the following:

- John Yasso has mini pumper tonight for the Livingston County Operation Light-Up. Unfortunately, the truck died in Avon near the Diesel Shop. He was able to get it restarted and it is currently at the Diesel Shop with possibly the same issue as previously with the injectors.
- All fire department members will be attending the Fire/EMS Study meeting on December 21st. Mayor Briffa feels that the solution should be a Fire District.

Trustee Jacobs introduced painting the sides of the Fire Hall. Front and back are vinyl. Last painted by the Livingston County Jail prisoners. Tabled for future consideration.

Highway Department Report: Highway Superintendent Russ Page presented the following:

- Smith Property – water service and what should be done (previous work order). Board previously discussed moving the meter out of the ditch. Other repairs would be property owners responsibility.

Village of Leicester

December 18, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Discussion regarding best option for moving the shut off, and adding a coupling and extend the pipe or use one piece from the main. Further discussion regarding the type of material to be used as copper or plastic. Discussion regarding possible installation of a frost-free meter pit and where to locate. Water policy will be reviewed regarding use of meter pits and responsibility for payment of the pit before further decision regarding installation of a meter pit. Superintendent Page asked if the Village water policy regulations advise size and type of pipe to be used. Water policy will be reviewed and discussed. Agreed that shut off needs to be moved from the ditch.

Motion by Trustee Jacobs to move the shut off out of the ditch using copper at Smith's property, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo. [Motion Carried 3-0] The Town will take care of moving the shut off with one piece of copper from the main.

Water Report:

- Water leak located and fixed at a trailer behind Brian's USA Diner.
- Still have overflow issue at the water tank. Estimated loss of \$9,000 a quarter. Current telemetry system is not functioning which is the cause of the problem. Quotes for new telemetry system received from Engineer. Board has until the January 22, 2024 board meeting to review and decide. Costs could range between \$46,000 to \$80,000 depending on who is chosen to do the project. Mayor Briffa will be contacting NYCOM for bid information. Potential for WIIA grant to cover cost.
- Village will remain with Village of Mt. Morris for water supply and Village of Mt. Morris will continue to obtain water from Silver Lake. New water contract to be renegotiated with Mt. Morris in two years. Village of Leicester could offer water to Town of Leicester to save money for customers. Discussed dropping the debt surcharge for customers with Supervisor-Elect White.

Zoning Report: Mayor Briffa reports the following:

- Otis property permit continues to be outstanding (porch removed).

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Contracts: Three contracts are still outstanding: Water, Fire Department (1 year contract) and Intermunicipal Contract. The water contract was never renewed. Expired at end of 2022. The village rejected the Fire Department Contract as the Town reduced the amount of what was requested. Possibly to be reconsidered. Intermunicipal contract expires at the end of 2023. Village proposed 3-year contract with one change to remove Village reimbursement for use of Town equipment. Since the Town turned their water over to the County, the Village, if needed, would pay for the Town Highway workers to keep their water licenses in case of the need for water coverage for the Village. Another Village option is to engage the Village of Mt. Morris Water for assistance. An offer was made by the Village to provide water again to the Town. The Village Board is looking forward to a new slate and working together with the Town Board.

Trustee Jacobs posed the question that Village taxpayers pay approximately \$100,000 to the Town, but what does that money pay for, what did taxpayers receive for that money? It was mentioned that perhaps the Town accountant could answer that question.

Village of Leicester

December 18, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Budget - Mayor Briffa pointed out that the Village Office line item is -\$4000. The Fire Department line item is currently -\$13,000 and adding in the Fire Hall costs would make it about -\$27,000. The Mayor anticipates the interest from the CNB account to generate roughly \$28,600.00 by June 1, 2024 which could help cover this loss. A potential increase in monies from a new Fire Contract will also help. His concerns are to be able to balance the budget.

Under the new budget, some things to consider, possibly in January, would be Dog Control (\$5,000/yr.), Main Street Grant (\$5,000/yr.) for possibly cost savings. Discussion around keeping Dog Control and eliminating the Main Street Grant and possibly partnering with another municipality to reduce costs. Dog Control costs are split between the 4 Villages that use County Dog Control. Costs are not charged according to the size of each Village.

Grants – Main Street Grant – 4 signs with LivCo branding being added to the 4 Welcome signs, charges include installation. Planters should be shipped next week. Some paperwork was missed so delivery was delayed. Artwork for banners was submitted. Once payments are made to vendors, cancelled checks and paperwork will be submitted for Grant money. Final artwork for banners wasn't received from Ms. Wadsworth until December 15th.

SAM Grant – New assistant working with Sr. Pam Helming that used to work for Patrick Gallivan. Deputy Clerk Bodratti to contact the new assistant as well as the Senate Finance Committee to again push for release of the SAM grant funds. Over 200 grants from Gallivan's district are outstanding. Money promised then hard to receive payment for those same funds.

Streetlights – Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley advised that NYSEG rep stated that 32 lights are still in need of replacement. They needed to be reordered because what was received were the incorrect lights. Village has been billed as though all lights are LED since October, but still paying the budget amount, and there is currently a credit in the total budget billing amount. Advised there is a light out at the intersection by the Church and next to 7-Eleven. Superintendent Page will put in an order to have non-working lights replaced to reduce duplication of both the Town and Village putting in orders.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lawn Mower – Quotes received for new commercial grade mowers. Trade in amount of currently owned mower is approximately \$1,700. Motion made by Trustee Frantz, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo to accept the purchase offer of no more than \$10,959.20 for the Toro Z Master 4000. [Motion Carried 3-0]

Village of Leicester

December 18, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Village Sign Repair – Insurance check received for \$133.20 toward repair of spraypainted sign on Route 36.

CLERKS REPORT:

Motion by Trustee Rizzo, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs to accept the Resolution to Extend the 2024 Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Livingston County Highway Department for a term of one year (12 months) terminating on December 31, 2024. [Motion Carried 3-0]

POP Funds – Paperwork ready to be completed for submission by February 9, 2024 for March 2024 payment.

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Rizzo, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to enter Executive Session at 7:51 pm regarding an employee matter. [Motion Carried 3-0]

EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Jacobs, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to exit Executive Session at 8:20 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

AUDIT OF BILLS:

Trustee Rizzo motioned, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs to accept the bills as audited. [Motion Carried 3-0]
General Fund Vouchers 2998 - 3014 \$15,937.57 Water Fund Vouchers 1108 - 1115 \$2,007.33

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:

Board of Trustees Meeting January 22, 2024, at 6:30 pm at Village Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Rizzo motioned, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm.
[Motion Carried 3-0]

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Beardsley
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Leicester

1. Activities

Number of calls in the past month (Nov 20 – Dec 18) 2 calls.

- 1) 11-23-23 – 1 car MVC @ 2640 Park Road
- 2) 11-24-23 - 1 car / deer MVC @ 2369 Leicester Road
- 3) 12/18/23 – One truck to participate in Livingston County Operation light up.

November monthly training – Scene size up

2. TRUCKS:

2017 Pumper Truck 135 – OK

2006 Pumper Truck 134 - OK

2006 Mini Pumper 133 – OK

3. Fire hall:

1. Back Roof needs to have repairs - Leaks

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

* *12-18-23 Roof job has been completed. New gutters to be done*

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.

* * *\$1500 share from NY State sent to Village account.*

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

* *12/18/ 2023 Grant has been turned down*

B) **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

** *12/21/23 First draft review and vision meeting with each fire dept. At Town hall 5:30 pm for Cuylerville and 7:00 pm for Leicester. Need 1 or 2 Village Trustee and 1 or 2 Town board members present at each session.*

Final Presentations to the public should be in January 2024.

C) **Contract** with Town for Fire Protection is pending negotiations between both boards. Fire protection service to continue.