

Village of Leicester

April 29, 2020 Board Meeting

The March 30, 2020 meeting was cancelled due to the State of Emergency declared in Livingston County effective at 5:00 pm on March 14, 2020, due to the health impacts of Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19).

Also due to the State of Emergency declared in Livingston County and in the State of New York pursuant to Executive Order 202.1 the April 29, 2020 Budget Hearing Meeting was closed to the Public. The meeting was published as closed to the public noting that the 2020-2021 Proposed Budget was posted on the Village website for review advising any and all comments to be voiced by phone, in writing by mail or email to be considered during the budget review.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Briffa called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Barry Briffa

Trustees: Mike Constantino, Tom Frantz, Don Jacobs, Ken Rizzo

Clerk-Treasurer: Kirstie DeGraff

Fire Chief:

Highway Superintendent:

Water Operator:

Zoning/Code Enforcement:

Residents:

MINUTES: The minutes of the February 24, 2020 Board Meeting were accepted as corrected on a motion by Trustee Jacobs, 2nd by Trustee Frantz [Motion Carried 4-0]

BUDGET HEARING: Mayor Briffa called the Budget Hearing to order at 6:03 pm. After noting that there were no voiced call in concerns, letters or emails to the 2020-2021 Proposed Budget the Board of Trustees opened discussion. After much discussion due to the uncertainty of the Community Building, Trustee Constantino motioned, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo to place a moratorium on all unnecessary spending during the 2020-2021 Budget Year [Motion Carried 4-0]. Trustee Rizzo motioned, 2nd by Trustees Constantino to adopt the 2020-2021 Proposed Budget as written [Motion Carried 4-0] Mayor Briffa closed the Budget Hearing at 6:34 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire Company Report: None

- 1) **New Fire Hall Student Presentations:** The group discussed the Zoom presentations by the two groups of RIT students noting that the students were off target on the expectations of the Village Board on parameters of project as their proposals would place a considerable burden on the taxpayers. It was noted during the budget discussion that the New Fire Hall will be on hold until the Community Building is leased or sold.

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Highway Superintendent Report: None

- 1) **Maple Lane Sign:** The group discussed the damage to the sign noting that it has been acceptably repaired. It was noted that if it happens again, any expense should be passed on to person who hits it.
- 2) **CHIPS Funding:** It was noted that Russ received verbal indication that the Village will receive CHIPS, EWR & Pave NY funds again this year but that nothing has been received in writing yet and that the Governor can pull the funding even if it is passed in the State budget.

Water Report: None

- 1) Trustee Constantino motioned, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs to levy the unpaid water bills for properties located at 48 Pleasant Street and 40 South Street totaling \$820.85 to the Village tax bills. [Motion carried 4-0]
- 2) Clerk-Treasurer DeGraff noted that the Orlando property had severely high usage. The water has been shut off at the property and there is a significantly high bill due on the property.
- 3) Clerk-Treasurer DeGraff noted the request from Pat Smith asking for consideration on the high bill received due to a water line break at their property. After much discussion, the board regrets that they cannot set precedence by waiving water charges and having taxpayers assume the burden of paying the Village of Mount Morris for water line breaks that residents sustain. The Board will waive late fees on the bill and offered to allow payment over 3 months.

Zoning/Code Enforcement Report: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sidewalk Damage: It was noted that the sidewalk in front of the Presbyterian Church is damaged, most likely from the lift that was on the sidewalk. The repair would be shared 50% by the property owner.

Roadside Damage at Park: It was noted that the excessive parking from the trucks along the park has made a muddy mess. Mayor Briffa will contact the State for repair.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Building: Mayor Briffa noted that due to the State of Emergency, the activity has been stagnant. Cole Real Estate's current contract to lease the building expires July 7th. They have submitted a renewal contract to list the building for lease and/or for sale for \$1.49 million through October 30th. There has been no communication from Keller Williams. After much discussion, Trustee Rizzo motioned, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs to sign the renewal contract with AB Cole Real Estate. [Motion Carried 3-1, Trustee Constantino voted No]. There was additional discussion of the commission for AB Cole Real Estate. Mayor Briffa indicated he would verify commission would not exceed 6% prior to signing the contract.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mowing Bids: Clerk-Treasurer DeGraff opened the two (2) mowing bids for the 2020 mowing season received: 1) Bernard J Nicastro Jr using his personal equipment for a total bid \$4995 and 2) Dawn Lubanski using the Village equipment for a total bid of \$3000. After some discussion, Trustee Rizzo motioned, 2nd by Trustee Constantino to reject the Nicastro bid [Motion carried 4-0] Mayor Briffa then motioned, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo to hire Dawn Lubanski for mowing [Motion carried 5-0].

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MAYOR'S REPORT:

Meeting with Senator Gallivan: Mayor Briffa noted that he will be meeting with Senator Gallivan to discuss any needs of the Village as a result of the State of Emergency declared in Livingston County and in the State of New York.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Route 36 Corridor Study: Clerk-Treasurer DeGraff reported that she has been attending the joint meetings on behalf of the Village where there is discussion about a possible traffic light at the intersection by the Community Building and the addition of a sidewalk cut into the bank with a retaining wall leading to the Kiwanis playground alongside the Presbyterian Church.

Frontier Communications Bankruptcy: Clerk-Treasurer DeGraff noted that she has received paperwork on the bankruptcy filing that has been forward to the Village attorney.

Hometown Heroes Banners: Clerk-Treasurer DeGraff reported that 21 banners have been purchased and Howie may need help getting all the banners up.

AUDIT OF BILLS:

Due to the March 30, 2020 meeting being cancelled due to the State of Emergency declared in Livingston County, Trustee Constantino and Trustee Rizzo audited the bills that were approved for payment under signature of Deputy Mayor/Trustee Rizzo. Trustee Rizzo motioned, 2nd by Trustee Constantino to accept the March bills as audited [Motion Carried 4-0]

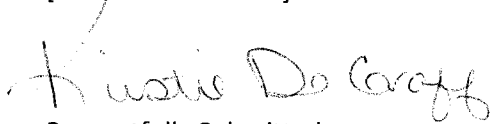
General Fund Vouchers 1935 - 1957 \$8,811.52 Water Fund Vouchers 740 - 746 \$2,626.55

Trustee Constantino motioned, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo, to accept the April bills as audited [Motion Carried 4-0]

General Fund Vouchers 1958 - 1977 \$6,215.95 Water Fund Vouchers 747 - 756 \$9,283.54

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING: Board of Trustees Meeting May 18, 2020 pm at 6:30 pm the Village Hall

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Constantino motioned, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. [Motion Carried 4-0]



Respectfully Submitted,
Kirstie DeGraff
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Leicester