

Village of Leicester

October 21, 2024 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, Dan Christiano, Tom Frantz
Clerk-Treasurer: Deborah Beardsley
Deputy Clerk: Samantha Bodratti
Fire Chief: James Kane, President Yasso
Highway Superintendent: Russ Page
Water Operator:
Zoning/Code Enforcement:
Residents: Karen Roffe, Doug Seeber, Will Bird, Kara Kane

EXCUSED:

MINUTES: The minutes of the September 16, 2024 Board Meeting were accepted on a motion by Trustee Rizzo, 2nd by Trustee Christiano. [Motion Carried 4-0]

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Local Law 1-2024 - Outdoor Storage Law II. Amend and update the definition of “appliance”. Motion made by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to open the Public Hearing at 6:35 pm amending Local Law 1-2024. [Motion Carried 4-0]

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire Company Report: President Yasso reports the following:

- 5 calls (see attached report).
- Upcoming Events: October 25 – Trunk or Treat at York Central School
- All trucks scheduled for pump testing at a cost of approximately \$700 per truck. All running well.
- Physicals (interior/exterior) for 18 firefighters completed.
- First Joint Fire District meeting of Commissioners scheduled for October 28, 2024 at the Fire Hall.
- FEMA Grant for 2023 was denied.
- Local Government Efficiency Grant for Fire/EMS Study still working to get submitted to State.
- V-Fire Grant is still pending.
- Fire Commissioner Sub-Committee selected/recommended John Yasso and Doug Seeber as Fire Commissioners for the Fire District.

Motion to approve appointment of John Yasso and Doug Seeber as Fire Commissioners for the Leicester-Cuylerville Joint Fire District made by Trustee Jacobs, 2nd by Trustee Frantz. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Jacobs-Yes; Trustee Christiano-Yes; Trustee Frantz-Yes; Trustee Rizzo-Yes; Mayor Briffa-Yes. [Motion Carried 5-0]

Fire District Commissioners Yasso and Seeber were sworn in by Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley.

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Highway Department Report: Superintendent Page reported the following:

- Maintenance of the ditch around Mr. Binder's driveway on Mahoney needed for proper drainage.
- Leaf pick up scheduled for week of October 28, November 4, November 11 and the week of November 18 as needed.
- Working on list of Village Streets and last maintenance performed.
- Maple Lane was "fog-sealed". The process helps contain the dust.
- Covering for Chris Young while he attends a NYCOM conference. Town Highway can still cover water for the Village. There was discussion on the Village paying for the Highway workers water certification for instances of coverage. Superintendent Page will find out the cost for certification trainings and testing.

Water Report: Mayor Briffa reports the following:

- Mayor Briffa questioned what happened with Life Sciences who provides water testing services. Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley explained that they did not receive recertification through the State and have subsequently gone out of business. The Village has contracts with two other service providers to replace Life Sciences.
- Discussion regarding possible future alternate water source from Livingston County to provide water to the area near Seneca Foods.
- Residents on Leicester Rd were mailed surveys from the Town and Livingston County regarding water service in that area and there was a tremendous response. Discussions on options available to provide water to the area.
- Water contract with Village of Mt. Morris approved till end of 2031.

Zoning Report: Mayor Briffa reports the following:

- No report.
- No permit for Harry's Gas Station was received in office for the tanks to be removed/replaced.

OLD BUSINESS:

Budget – continual review process.

Village Office Painting – Painting is complete, and Mayor Briffa is impressed with how it looks.

Cross Walk – Order is in for signage and road painting. Will be submitted to CHIPS.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dog Control – Trustee Christiano notes there has been an increased occurrence of at-large dogs. Under the current law there is not much that Dog Control can do unless someone gets hurt. Investigating options for possibly levying a ladder style fine system to make the law more enforceable. Law needs more clarity to allow Dog Control to help the Village. Changes in law to be presented at next board meeting in December.

Fire Tax for Village Residents – Starting in January 2025, there will be a new Fire Tax on Town and County tax bills that Village residents have never had prior. Village is preparing a letter to all Village residents to inform them and explain this addition. Village residents paid for fire protection as part of their Village taxes, it just was not separated on the bill.

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PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS – 1-2024 OUTDOOR STORAGE II:

Kara Kane shared feedback that the law should be posted on Village website for viewing prior to meeting. Village appreciates the feedback and will take action to correct that procedure in the future.

Kara Kane shared comments regarding her opinion and feelings about the Outdoor Storage Law for her specific situation indicating she felt “targeted”. Mayor Briffa responded to her concerns, stating it is a Board decision. Trustee Christiano shared that rewording of the law would have assisted him with a situation regarding garbage left uncollected at a residence on Main Street. James Kane questioned use of a cast iron pot repurposed as a potential cause for complaint. Discussion involved several examples of items used for decorative purposes and the appropriateness. Mayor Briffa stated that each law is being reviewed and updated as needed. The law takes a couple of months to be filed with the State and following that, the Code Enforcement Officer will be charged with addressing issues around the Village and enforcing the law.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Motion made by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo to close the Public Hearing amending Local Law 1-2024. [Motion Carried 4-0]

Motion to approve Local Law 1-2024 by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Jacobs-Yes; Trustee Christiano-Yes; Trustee Frantz-Yes; Trustee Rizzo-Yes. [Motion Carried 4-0]

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Installation of smart meters by NYSEG – Residents have not received bills since they were installed. Discussion on preparing for large bills when bills finally are sent. RGE smart meters are next.

Fall Newsletter – Mayor Briffa thanked Deputy Clerk Bodratti for the design of the newsletter.

Association of Villages – Contact by Louise Wadsworth regarding taking over the association dinners, run them and schedule guests. Questions as to if it is part of the Main Street Grant through LivCo. Village Mayors will all need to agree.

CLERKS REPORT:

CD with Canandaigua National is due this week. Interest rates were not available prior to meeting. Discussion centered on length of time for renewal. Will renew for three months.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Karen Roffe mentioned that the historical marker in the Village Park will be removed and it will be restored.

Boyd Parker Park – Building to be taken down and possibly replaced with a gazebo. Still in planning stages. Torture tree will be addressed by an arborist when it is dormant.

Trustee Christiano asked about the Lead Water Survey. Deputy Bodratti has been continually putting the survey information out on the Village Facebook page and listing the website on water bills since Spring with little response. It was included on the back of the Village Fall Newsletter and more responses have been received. There are still many residences that information is needed from, especially for those outside the Village that receive Village water. Preliminary report was due to the State on October 16th.

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AUDIT OF BILLS:

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

General Fund Vouchers 3204 - 3226 \$36,230.08 Water Fund Vouchers 1191 - 1205 \$48,333.93

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:

Board of Trustees Meeting, November 18, 2024, at 6:30 pm at Village Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Jacobs motioned, 2nd by Trustee Christiano to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 pm.
[Motion Carried 4-0]

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Beardsley
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Leicester