

Village of Leicester

April 21, 2025 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: Absent
Highway Superintendent: Russ Page
Water Operator: Chris Young
Zoning/Code Enforcement:
Residents: Jim Kane, Richard White, John Yasso

EXCUSED:

MINUTES: The minutes of the March 17, 2025 Board Meeting were accepted on a motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs. [Motion Carried 4-0]

Mayor Briffa welcomed the Town of Leicester Supervisor, Rich White, to the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Highway Department Report: Superintendent Page reported the following:

- Village sign repaired.
- No additional equipment was needed to rent to clear the watermain trail from the Pump House to the trailer park and it has all now been cleared.
- Snow/Ice removal bills submitted. Still working on a quote for the suction hose for the leaf vacuum.
- Met with Suite Kote for ideas to consider for Maple Lane, Market St., and Eastman Place. Recommendation is stone and oil with fog seal over it. Quotes to come. Maple Lane has held up well.
- Discussion regarding Village paying for Town Highway workers water licenses as back up for Chris Young. Supervisor White states it is Superintendent Page's decision, however, without a Town water department, it becomes a more complicated issue with different liabilities involved in repairing water breaks. Discussion around if the Village is contracting with the Town or with the individuals who have the water certificates.
- Discussed repair of railroad crossing on Routes 36 (redo the crossing) and 20A in Village (to be patched).

Water Report: Chris Young reported the following:

- Water Tank Inspection recommended by the Health Department. Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley shared the last inspection occurred in 2018 and was performed by Atlantic Underwater Services. Board agrees to use the same vendor for this inspection.
- Fire Hydrant on Pleasant St has a leak. Chris will work on repairs and will ask for Town Highway help if needed. Potential future repair needed to a shut off on Main St at Pleasant.
- Water meter at 44 Pleasant had a reader battery issue where it is reading but not sending the reading to the reading device. Problems receiving information from residents at 55 Market regarding reading issues on the meter there with a possible meter in backwards.
- Meter to be placed at Genesee River Bridge in Mt. Morris to monitor flow to determine when there is any sudden increase indicating a possible water break.

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Fire District Report: Commissioner Yasso presented report on the following:

- January 1 to April 21 there were 28 fire/emergency incidents and 57 EMS calls.
- Trucks are being scheduled for yearly maintenance and service.
- Boy Scouts pancake breakfast scheduled at the Leicester Fire Hall for Memorial Day, May 26th.
- Cuylerville completed CPR training for six people.
- Administrative policy approved by the Commissioners.
- Proposal sent to Ayers-Christiano Properties for purchase of property adjacent to the Fire Hall in Leicester.
- Grant awarded for turnout gear, washer and dryer still in process.

Zoning Report: Mayor Briffa reported on the following:

- Two court dates upcoming.
- Eastman Place approved for Frontier underground fiberoptic cable installation.
- Harry's work continues with DEC involvement.

OLD BUSINESS:

Budget – Village Tax levy cut 20% due to the creation of the Fire District. Discussed various future budget tax possibilities. Village Taxes were cut 40% in 2012 by previous administration which started the current revenue issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion with Supervisor White regarding the Pine Tavern Water District. Project not moving as quickly as anticipated. Dependent on Akzo funds and multiple considerations tied to those funds and pending York and Geneseo contracts. Tentative plans to be approved. Possibly 40 additional houses could be included. Supervisor White to inspect the Letchworth State Park reservoir. Discussion included booster pump up Jones Bridge Rd but that would not give enough pressure for possible emergency use such as firefighting.

Seneca Foods and LCWSA contracts to be negotiated by the end of this year.

Town of Leicester purchased two traffic signs. Offering one to be placed within the Village on 20A coming down the hill. Mayor Briffa to inquire with State DOT representative Michael Hinds.

Question to Supervisor White regarding any plans to address the planter in front of the Town Hall. It has been discussed that it is possible to put a new handicap ramp in its place.

Discussion regarding the Ayers building next to the consignment shop. Question arose as to length of time it has been vacant. Trustee Christiano stated that any vacancy 24 months or longer will require Zoning Board approval for any future use.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

Trustee Rizzo stepped down as Deputy Mayor. Mayor Briffa appointed Trustee Christiano as the new Deputy Mayor. Trustee Frantz made a motion to approve the appointment of Trustee Christiano as Deputy Mayor, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs. [Motion Carried 4-0]

Trustee Christiano made a motion to accept the following appointments for the fiscal year 2025-2026 seconded by Trustee Rizzo.

Carried 4-0

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2025-2026 APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Mayor	Dan Christiano
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer	Samantha Bodratti
Tax Collector	Deborah Beardsley
Records Management Officer	Samantha Bodratti
Budget Officer	Deborah Beardsley
Auditing Committee	Ken Rizzo / Dan Christiano
Street & Parks Committee	All Board Members
Recreation Committee	Dan Christiano / Tom Frantz
Water & Lights Committee	Don Jacobs / Ken Rizzo
Village Building	Don Jacobs / Ken Rizzo
Fire Department Committee	COMMITTEE REMOVED
Highway Department	Don Jacobs / Ken Rizzo
Youth Committee	Dan Christiano / Tom Frantz
Attorney	Ed Russell of Hodgson Russ. LLC
Accounting Firm	
Engineering Firm	CPL Engineering
Registrar	Amy Neumann
Historian	Vacant
Official Newspaper	Livingston County News
Official Depository	Five Star Bank / CNB
Secretary to the Planning/Zoning Officer	Samantha Bodratti
Code Enforcement Officer	Chuck Cagle
Planning/Zoning Board Members	Dan Christiano – Chair (4 yr – exp May 2028) Pete Fanaro (4 yr – exp May 2024) VACANT Tim Muscarella (4 yr – exp May 2024) Joe Nahalka (4 yr – exp May 2024)

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Trustee Rizzo made a motion to have all official Board Meetings held on the third Monday of the Month at 6:30 pm seconded by Trustee Jacobs Carried 4-0

Trustee Christiano made a motion to pass the Approval of Claims Resolution for the fiscal year 2025-2026 seconded by Trustee Frantz. Carried 4-0

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees has determined to authorize payment in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage, freight, and express charges; and

WHEREAS all such claims must be presented at the next regular meeting for audit; and

WHEREAS the claimant and the officer incurring or approving the claim are jointly and severally liable for any amount the board of trustees disallows.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees authorizes payment in advance of audit claims for public utility services, postage, freight, and express charges. All such claims must be presented at the next regular meeting for audit and the claimant and the officer incurring or approving the claims are jointly and severally liable for any amount the board of trustees disallows.

Section 2. That this resolution is effective immediately.

Trustee Frantz made a motion to pass the Approval of Mileage Resolution for the fiscal year 2025-2026 seconded by Trustee Rizzo. Carried 4-0

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees has determined to pay a fixed rate for mileage as reimbursed to Village Officers and employees who use their personal automobiles while performing their official Village duties;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees will approve reimbursement to such Officers and employees at the rate per mile as set by the IRS (**currently \$.70**) and payable by the payroll company.

Section 2. That this resolution is effective immediately.

Trustee Christiano made a motion to pass the Approval of Designated Depositories Resolution for the fiscal year 2025-2026 seconded by Trustee Rizzo. Carried 4-0

WHEREAS The Board of Trustees has determined that the Village Law §4-412 (3)(2) requires the designation of banks or trust companies for deposit of all village monies;

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees designates the following institutions as depositories of all monies received by the village treasurer, clerk, and receiver of taxes. Names of institutions:

Five Star Bank

M & T Bank Collateral Custody Services

Section 2. That this resolution is effective immediately.

Trustee Christiano made a motion to pass the Investment and Procurement Policy Resolution for the fiscal year 2025-2026 seconded by Trustee Rizzo. Carried 4-0

Investment Policy: WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees desire to establish an investment policy in order to insure funds not needed for the immediate payment of bills will be invested to earn a safe return as provided under the Village Law, the General Municipal Law and the local Finance Law; and

WHEREAS; the Village Board desires to designate certain banks for the placing of investments; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board desires to authorize the Village Clerk-Treasurer as the fiscal officer to make such investments,

NOW, THEREFORE the Board of Trustees authorizes the use of the following commercial banks or trust companies located and authorized to do business in New York State, for placing investments:

Five Star Bank and Canandaigua National Bank

The Board of Trustees authorizes the use of the following types of investments;

Instruments for investing Village monies:

- 1) Savings Account
- 2) NOW. account
- 3) Money Market Deposit Accounts
- 4) Super NOW. Accounts
- 5) 7 to 31 Day Accounts
- 6) Certificates of Deposit
- 7) Repurchase Agreements
- 8) Purchase of United States Treasury Bonds, Bills, and Notes
- 9) Other investment instruments as may be approved by the Office of the State Comptroller from time to time

The Board of Trustees specifically delegates the authority to make day-to-day investment decisions within the guidelines and limitations of this policy resolution to the Village Clerk-Treasurer, as Chief Fiscal Officer. The Chief Fiscal Officer is authorized to utilize the advisory services of Municipal Consulting Firms in planning the timing, amount, maturity, bidding, placement, and reporting on any investments made hereunder.

The Board of Trustees specifically authorizes the designated official to use electronic transfer of funds; among the approved banking institutions, to assist in obtaining “federal funds” enhanced interest rates. Each such transfer shall be specifically identified in the original journal entry as a “wire transfer” and subsequently supported by the bank confirmation notice to provide an audit trail.

The Board of Trustees authorizes the designated official the authority to turn over the physical custody of Certificates of Deposit and other evidences of investments for safekeeping possession to the winning bank, as

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provided in section 11 (3) of the General Municipal Law, to facilitate access to funds at maturity and to eliminate having live certificates in the Village Office.

All investments shall be documented in written reports to the Village Board, outlining the details of the investment and the bids received thereon. When investments are placed, these reports should be presented no less than monthly.

The primary objective of this policy is to enhance the safety and availability of any Village monies invested. Safety is enhanced by FDIC Insurance limit as presently set or subsequently revised, are to be insured by a pledging of appropriate collateral with the institution winning the bid for the investment. Where appropriate, all investments must be bid specifying, "with collateral."

Procurement Policy:

1) Every purchase to be made must be initially reviewed to determine whether it is a purchase contract or a public works contract. Once that determination is made, a good faith effort will be made to determine whether it is known or can reasonably be expected that aggregate amount to be spent on the item of supply or service is not subject to competitive bidding, taking into account past purchases and the aggregate amount to be spent in a year. The following items are not subject to competitive bidding pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law: purchase contracts under \$20,000 and public works contracts under \$35,000; emergency purchases; certain municipal hospital purchases; goods purchased from agencies for the blind or severely handicapped; goods purchased from correctional institutions; purchases under state and county contracts; and surplus and secondhand purchases from another government entity.

The decision that a purchase is not subject to competitive bidding will be documented in writing by the individual making the purchase. The documentation may include written or verbal quotes from vendors, a memo from the purchaser indicating how the decision was arrived at, a copy of the contract indicating the source which makes the item or service exempt, a memo from the purchaser detailing the circumstances which led to an emergency purchase, or any other written documentation that is appropriate.

2) All goods and services will be secured by use of written requests for proposals, written quotations, verbal quotations, or any method that assures that goods will be purchased at the lowest price and that favoritism will be avoided, except in the following circumstances: purchase contracts over \$20,000 and public works contracts of \$35,000; goods purchased from agencies for the blind or severely handicapped pursuant to section 175-b of the State Finance Law; goods purchased from correctional institutions pursuant to Section 186 of the Correction Law; purchases under State contracts pursuant to Section 104 of the General Municipal Law; purchases under County contracts pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law; or purchases to subdivision 6 of this policy.

3) The following method of purchase will be used when required by this policy in order to achieve the highest savings:

ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF PURCHASE CONTRACT METHOD

\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999 2 verbal quotations

\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999 3 written/fax/email quotations or written request for proposal

ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT METHOD

\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999 2 verbal quotations

\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999 3 written/fax/email quotations \$10,000 - \$19,999

written/fax/email quotations or written request for proposal

3

A good faith effort shall be made to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations. If the purchaser is unable to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations, the purchaser will document the attempt

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made at obtaining the proposals. In no event shall the failure to obtain the proposals or quotations; the purchaser will document the attempt made at obtaining the proposals. In no event shall the failure to obtain the proposals be a bar to the procurement.

4) Documentation is required of each action taken in connection with each procurement.

5) Documentation and an explanation are required whenever a contract is awarded to anyone other than the lowest responsible offeror. The documentation will include an explanation of how the award will achieve savings or how the offeror was not responsible. A determination that the offeror is not responsible shall be made by the purchaser and may not be challenged under any circumstances.

6) Pursuant to General Municipal Law section 104-b (2)(1), the procurement policy may contain circumstances when, or types of procurements for which in the sole discretion of the governing body, the solicitation of alternative proposals or quotations will not be in the best interest of the municipality. In the following circumstances it may not be in the best interests of the Village of Leicester to solicit quotations or document the basis for not accepting the lowest proposal.

- A. Professional services or services requiring special or technical skill, training or expertise. The individual or company must be chosen based on accountability, reliability, responsibility, skill, education and training, judgement, integrity, and moral worth. These qualifications are not necessarily found in the individual or company that readily lend themselves to competitive procurement procedures. In determining whether a service fits into a category the Village Board of Trustees shall take into consideration the following guidelines: (a) whether the services are subject to State licensing or testing requirements; (b) whether substantial formal education or training is a necessary prerequisite to the performance of the services; and (c) whether the services require a personal relationship between the individual and municipal officials. Professional or technical services shall include but not limited to the following: services of an attorney; technical services of an engineer or architect engaged to prepare plans, maps and estimates; securing insurance coverage and/or services of an insurance broker; services of a certified public accountant; investment management services; printing services involving extensive writing, editing or art work; management of municipally owned property; and computer software or programming services for customized programs, or services involved in substantial modification and customizing or pre-packaged software.
- B. Emergency purchases pursuant to Section 103 (4) of the General Municipal Law. Due to the nature of this exception, these goods or services must be purchased immediately and a delay in order to seek alternate proposals may threaten the life, health, safety, or welfare of the residents. This section does not preclude alternate proposals if time permits.
- C. Purchases of surplus and second-hand goods from any source or goods purchased at auction. If alternate proposals are required, the Village is precluded from purchasing surplus and second-hand goods at auctions or through specific advertised sources where the best prices are usually obtained. It is also difficult to try to compare prices of used goods and a lower price may indicate an older product.
- D. Goods or services under \$2,500. The time and documentation required to purchase through this policy may be more costly than the item itself and would therefore not be in the best interest of the taxpayer. In addition, it is not likely that such contracts would be awarded favoritism.
- E. Service contracts encountered through New York State Office of General Services. In these instances, the State has already investigated and secured the lowest possible price for the municipality.

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MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Briffa will purchase planters and geraniums for Veteran's Memorial in Village Park. Supervisor White stated that the Town will reset the stones at the monument. Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley stated the POW-MIA flag in the park is getting tattered and asked who should be responsible for replacing the flag. Mayor Briffa stated that the Village could ask Mr. Laney from the Legion, and the Village can replace if necessary.

Trustee Jacobs asked about the Veteran's banners. Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley stated there are three requests for orders so far and five are needed for shipping costs to be reduced. Also discussed where further banners can be installed, possibly along Route 36 toward Mt. Morris and 20A toward Cuylerville.

CLERKS REPORT:

\$100,000 CD at Canandaigua National has matured. Board approved reinvestment of CD for a three-month period at a rate of \$4.20%.

Mr. Jennings of South Street sent an email indicating interest in the Zoning Board vacancy. Trustee Christiano to contact him.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AUDIT OF BILLS:

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

General Fund Vouchers 3307 - 3324 \$5,904.66 Water Fund Vouchers 1239 - 1249 \$37,421.12

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:

Board of Trustees Meeting, May 19, 2025, at 6:30 pm at Village Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Jacobs motioned, 2nd by Trustee Christiano to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. [Motion Carried 4-0]

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Beardsley
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Leicester