

Village of Leicester

February 26, 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, Tom Frantz, Dan Christiano

Clerk-Treasurer: Deborah Beardsley

Deputy Clerk: Sam Bodratti

Fire Chief: James Kane, President John Yasso

Highway Superintendent: Russell Page

Water Operator:

Zoning/Code Enforcement:

Residents: Karen Roffe, Louise Wadsworth-LC Downtown Partnership

EXCUSED:

MINUTES: The minutes of the January 22, 2024 Board Meeting were accepted on a motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs. [Motion Carried 4-0]

PRESENTATION: Louise Wadsworth of the Livingston County Downtown Partnership program gave a presentation on how the program has assisted Village businesses over the past several years and asked for the Village's continued participation in the program. It was discussed that grant monies are available for area businesses as well as grant funds for Village beautification and potential installation of cross walks in appropriate areas. Ms. Wadsworth stated their office would gladly send a letter in support of crosswalks as she views the Village as more of a pedestrian area. She will request the Route 36 Study to investigate if any crosswalks are noted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire Company Report: President Yasso submitted the attached report and reported the following:

- 2 Calls in the past month.
- Training – SCBA.
- Trucks are currently all good.
- 2023 application for Assistance to Firefighters Grant is open and due by March 8 2024.
- Kiwanis chicken BBQ scheduled for April 6, 2024.
- Fire / EMS Study- CGR Final Presentation scheduled for February 29, 2024 at 7 pm at the Celebrate Church on Route 36. The community is encouraged to attend. Meetings to strategize next steps to come after the presentation.
- Chief Kane Village reported that the Village Office Fire Extinguishers were tested and returned. One had to be sent in for testing and will be returned in a couple of weeks.

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Highway Department Report: Russ Page presented the following:

- Discussion on improvements to Maple Lane to reduce the formation of potholes. Potential for use of geo-textile fabric to displace weak spots along with "crusher run material".
- Work on Smith's property is complete. Curb box was removed from ditch.
- Mowing and brush to be cut on Mahoney Street along the railroad tracks still to be done.
- Revisit last year's discussion on surface treatment of streets on either Eastman Place or Market. Meeting scheduled with sales rep to obtain quotes.
- Billing for services is delayed pending contract negotiations between Town and Village.
- Work order submitted for coverage for water on March 5, 2024.

Water Report:

- Telemetry System – PlantIQ is ready to order necessary materials.
- The water tank level has been reduced by three feet to contain overflow.
- Village will apply for the new WIIA2 Grant for water infrastructure intended for small communities for new meters and reading software.
- Meeting to come with Jason Molina, LCWSA regarding water contract.

Zoning Report: Mayor Briffa reports the following: No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

NYSEG – Electric line replaced on South Parkway. LED Lights are still not all updated. Discussion of the tree trimming that has been occurring throughout the Village for the last several weeks.

SAM Grant – Mayor Briffa reports that the Senator has another new assistant in her office. Again, all paperwork has been submitted and the Village continues to push for an answer on funding.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Budget – Proposed budget distributed to Board members. Budget to be reviewed and any changes or questions to be presented to Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley. Public Hearing in March for budget approval. Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley encouraged all Board members to review the current expenditures thus far when reviewing the proposed budget. Notations on proposed budget to indicate items paid out of categories listed.

South Street Annex – Following the County takeover of water and increased cost to residents, the Village would again like to see if those South Street residents would like to join the Village.

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MAYOR'S REPORT:

Eclipse Glasses – The Village has obtained some eclipse glasses and one pair per person are available to Village residents while the supply lasts. Discussion on the numbers of out of area visitors and safety measures for the day of the eclipse.

Kiwanis – Invite extended to a representative to attend board meeting regarding donation request and where and how donation is spent.

Town Board Meeting – Tuesday, February 27

CLERKS REPORT:

POP Funds: Forms submitted, and \$2095 reimbursement expected mid-March.

LIVCO Reimbursement: Village has received the reimbursement check for \$6261 for the banners and planters and signs through the grant provided by LivCo Downtown Partnership.

GVCA Grant: Grant was originally denied. Village was approved at the last minute for Summer Concert funding when another project declined funding. LivCo may be a future alternative for helping to fund future Concert Series.

Playground Grants- Deputy Bodratti continues to look for other grant programs for playgrounds.

State Wide Financial System – requires new enrollment with new contact information for ability to apply for grant monies. Fire Department grant has to be applied for through this state system.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Trustee Jacobs asked if the Village had ever received bids for the Village building repairs/siding. No bids have been received. Trustee Jacobs feels new ads should be published. Also, the Fire Hall needs to be painted. It was suggested that Angie's List may be an option to enlist contractors for bids on Village Office building. Ads will be put in the Pennysaver.

Russ Page mentioned the back stairs and the possibility of someone falling on the steps. Trustee Jacobs stated they had been repaired previously but have come loose, possibly due to frost in the ground. Trustee Christiano stated he had someone that he could request to look at the steps. Trustee Jacobs also mentioned Mark Bonadonna being able to repair the steps. Mayor Briffa stated that some of the larger companies don't come out to this area.

Trustee Rizzo questioned if the Village had received any Lead responses. Deputy Clerk Bodratti stated that a few responses had come through and outlined the survey attached to the Village website. For anyone not willing/able to submit electronically, a paper copy of the survey will be available in the office.

Spring Newsletter – Will be available in April.

Colon Cancer Banner – Was delivered today by the Department of Health. Trustee Frantz will put it up in the Village Park.

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ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to enter Executive Session at 7:37 pm regarding water. [Motion Carried 4-0]

EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo to exit Executive Session at 8:26 pm. [Motion Carried 4-0]

Motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to negotiate a contract with the Town of Leicester for \$37,700 for Fire Protection Services. [Motion Carried 4-0]

AUDIT OF BILLS:

Trustee Rizzo motioned, 2nd by Trustee Christiano to accept the bills as audited. [Motion Carried 4-0]
General Fund Vouchers 3037 - 3056 \$12,647.46 Water Fund Vouchers 1129 - 1132 \$491.28

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:

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

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Jacobs motioned, 2nd by Trustee Rizzo to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm.
[Motion Carried 4-0]

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Beardsley
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Leicester

1. Activities

Number of calls in the past month (Jan 21 – Feb 26) 2 calls.

- 1) 1-29-2024 Vehicle into ditch – Peoria Rd near Clapp Road (town)
- 2) 2-15-2024 Grass fire – near utility pole – Corner of Barratt Road and Rt.39

January monthly training – SCBA training

2. TRUCKS:

2017 Pumper Truck 135 – OK

2006 Pumper Truck 134 - OK

2006 Mini Pumper 133 – OK

3. Fire Hall:

1. Kiwanis to use Fire Hall for Chicken BBQ – April 6, 2024
 2. Backup Generator?? – Wait Till Fire and EMS study is completed
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4. Equipment

- A) Need to order 2 more sets of gear for next budget year 2023-24. 7-9 months delivery time – Estm. \$6000.00
 - B) Application for 2023 Assistance to Firefighters Grant is open and due by March 8, 2024
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5. Other items

A) **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. Meeting went well.*

Final Presentations to the public will be in February 29, 2024.

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

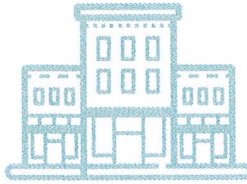


INVESTMENT IN DOWNTOWN LEICESTER 2015-2023

Over the last 9 years the Village of Leicester has invested a total of \$37,000 in the County's Downtown Partnership Program. During that time, Livingston County Development Corporation has injected \$450,248 in grant funding into the Village of Leicester, leveraging an additional \$322,314 in private investment for a total 9 year investment of \$772,563.

This is an average investment of \$85,840 per year in the community's downtown and an ROI of almost 2000%!

3 BUSINESSES ASSISTED



Through our Business Assistance Programs:

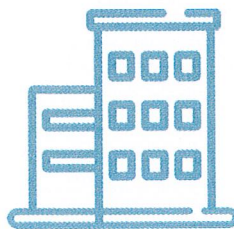
- 2nd Time Around Consignment
- Trail Otter
- Iron Roots Salon



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

- Commercial District Analysis
- Design Guidelines
- Wayfinding Study
- LivCo Walls Mural
- Branded Light Pole Banners
- LivCo NY Rider Signs added to Village Gateway Signs
- Bike Racks
- Planters
- Trees

14 RENOVATION PROJECTS



- Total Cost: \$498,223
- Grants Provided: \$236,717
- Private Investment Leveraged: \$261,506



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