

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening, **August 8, 2023**, at 6:30 PM in the Noble Room of the Municipal Building at 9 Park Street, Newark Valley.

**PRESENT:** Mayor James Tornatore  
Deputy Mayor Scott Kasmarcik  
Trustees Joe Mooney  
Ted Hardenstine  
Jackie Wandell  
DPW Supervisor Matt Seamans  
Clerk/Treasurer Pam Benthin

**EXCUSED:** Code Officer Max Chandler

**PUBLIC IN**

**ATTENDANCE:** David Chamberlain, Denise Liske, and Kim Frey.

**GUESTS:**

- *Denise Liske, Newark Valley Dog Control:* Clarification of Newark Valley dog control laws. Neither Town nor Village have an enforceable ‘leash law’, only a ‘no running at large’ which allows dogs to be off leash if under the control of their owner or in their own yard. Both the towns of Berkshire and Richford have passed Park Ordinances that state dogs are not allowed in their parks unless leashed. Denise encourages and highly recommends the Village do the same for Trout Ponds Park. If an ordinance is in place, she as Dog Control, can help enforce fines to violators. Denise has reviewed our Village code regarding dogs/animal control and has found that many of the terms and penalties need to be updated as NYS Ag & Market and the County have made updates/modifications that are not reflected in our codes. Denise is willing to meet with the Planning Board in September to help with the update to Village code.
- *Kim Frey, Village Resident:* Congratulations on the Lowes grant, it will be great for the community, but it shows the lack of regular maintenance at the park by the Village. Village should use the salary of the second office person to fund a maintenance budget. Mr. Frey attended last nights meeting at the new Community Connection Center. A community center could be a huge asset to this community, but they need help and guidance to get it up and running. Mr. Frey feels the Villages’ knowledge and experience would be very beneficial to the community center.

**MINUTES:** Not available at this time.

**FINANCIAL**

**REPORT:** Not available at this time.

**WORK IN PROGRESS:**

- **Lowes Hometown Grant** – Out to bid, a number of contractors have inquired. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the park on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Bids are due to the Clerk’s office by August 17<sup>th</sup>. All work must be completed by November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Office Entrance** – Project on hold due to time spent paving and on other projects. Have a proposal/quote to have the propane tanks relocated and new lines connected, just waiting for the time to be available. Supervisor Seamans hopeful to have the project completed by fall, including re-grading for water disbursement away from the building, and removal of the driveway and replacement with a new sidewalk.

- **Vac. Truck** – Borrowed Vac truck from Town of Union, thanks to a connection through Joe Tennant, to clean the streets that were just recently stone and oiled. We have an opportunity to purchase a used vac truck from the Village of Owego. For approx. \$10k including repairs/upgrades, a new machine is roughly \$30k+. Having our own vac truck would allow for us to clean the streets of sand after winters plowing, clean the streets if we have a flooding event, clean out our catch basins on a more regular basis, and maintain a higher stature of cleanliness around the entire Village. Could be paid for with funds from equipment reserves and/or fund balance monies. All board members agree our own vac truck would be beneficial to the community.
- **DPW Truck** – Still looking at truck options and where to purchase from. Purchase can be funded with a combination of monies from multi-year planning, ARPA, equipment reserves, fund balance or a USDA loan.
- **AED in MB** – no update at this time.
- **ARPA Funds** – Plan for use of \$93,000 must be made by 12/31/2024 and the funds must be spent by 12/31/2027. Public input meetings will be scheduled.
- **LCRR (Lead Copper Rule Revision)** – No new updates. October 2024, need to have inventory of water lines to state.

**BILLS:** Presented. Approved in the amount of \$43,325.24 from abstract number 15-24, 16-24, 17-24 and 18-24, with a Motion by *Trustee Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Trustee Hardenstine*.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- RESOLUTION #24-24** Authorize DPW Supervisor to Hire Spoonhower Construction - MB Garage Roof (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Hardenstine*, seconded by *Kasmarcik*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Mooney, Tornatore, Wandell - Yes. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #25-24** Authorize Clerk to Advertise Special Meeting – August 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30 (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Wandell*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Mooney, Tornatore, Wandell - Yes. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #26-24** Authorize Building Permit Fee to be Waived for the Town of Newark Valley (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Mooney*, seconded by *Hardenstine*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Mooney, Tornatore, Wandell - Yes. 0 - No.

**REPORTS:**

- **Code** – CEO Chandler not in attendance. Rewey Ave issue moving forward, first initial payment of fees has been received. Resident has been allotted a 45-day waiver due to unforeseen circumstances out of their control. Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik has spoken with CEO Chandler about getting “a little carried away” with his grass/weed violations.
- **Public Works** – See attached report. Sup. Seamans has received mixed feedback regarding State Regulation 5-1.31 and the requirement for an RPZ (reduced pressure zone) to be used when filling tanker trucks from our water system. Town and State employees are on board and understand the reasoning/necessity, was met with pushback from the Fire Department and received no notable feedback from the County.
- **Clerk** – No report available, all efforts have been focused on the Lowes grant project.
- **Planning** – Mayor to set up planning board meeting with Denise Liske.
- **Parks** – Lowe’s Hometown Project will be the focus for the next few months.

- **Youth** – This year’s program was another success. Director Cardone has had an opportunity to take a job outside of NV but has stated that she will continue to assist the program with all reporting and paperwork in the years going forward. Assistant Director Freiser will continue with the on-site, hands-on programming.
- **Infrastructure** – Nothing to report.
- **Library** – Director Chapman continuing to offer great programs even in this last month of summer. Summer Rec. program attended the events, and the kids had a great time.
- **Police** – Officer Yeager has recently been promoted to Captain, Mayor Tornatore will reach out as to who the Village should contact going forward regarding events and such.
- **School Districts** – New Superintendent started Monday. Trustee Hardenstine spoke with Mr. Sweiger, relaying that the storage shed project had board approval to commence. Mayor Tornatore will speak with the residents that were against the placement of a shed at the location.

### **COMMENTS & CONCERNS**

Motion by *Trustee Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Trustee Hardenstine* to adjourn at 7:53pm. Carried

Jessica Moore  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer