

FEBRUARY 27, 2017

The fourth regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lakewood, N.Y., was held Monday, February 27, 2017, 6:30 PM, with Mayor Cara Birrittieri presiding. Trustees present were Ellen E. Barnes, Susan F. Drago and Edward J. McCague. Also present were Village Clerk Joseph M. Johnson, Village Treasurer Andrea J. Windoft, Police Chief John R. Bentley, Village Attorney John I. LaMancuso, Department of Public Works Supervisor Thomas R. Pilling and Building Inspector Jeffrey A. Swanson. Absent were Trustee Randall G. Holcomb and Fire Chief Kurt W. Hallberg.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Trustee McCague, seconded by Trustee Drago, to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, held February 13, 2017. Adopted: 3 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Drago, McCague)

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Motion by Trustee Drago, seconded by Trustee McCague, that the claims as audited by the Auditing Committee of the abstract dated February 27, 2017, be approved and that the Clerk shall execute said abstracts (#39 & #40) and direct payment by the Treasurer. Trust & Agency Fund: \$ 63,933.38, (Checks #4026 thru #4038), General Fund: \$ 59,841.41, (Checks #13530 thru #13562) Adopted: 3 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Drago, McCague)

REPORTS

Mayor Birrittieri said she is thrilled to announce that the 2017 Chautauqua County Travel Guide is out and indicated the two ads featuring the Village of Lakewood, which are found on page 22 and page 79, turned out fabulous. She said the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau prints nearly 200,000 copies of the travel guide which is distributed throughout Chautauqua County and beyond. Mayor Birrittieri said she is also excited about the bonus headline on page 73. Mayor Birrittieri thanked the Lakewood Community Development Corporation (LCDC) and the YMCA in helping the Village of Lakewood fund the two (2) ads.

She indicated having ads in the travel guide provides great exposure for the Village of Lakewood and what it has to offer.

Mayor Birrittieri recently received confirmation in writing from the New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA), and that the Village of Lakewood has been declared a Clean Energy Community and becomes eligible for a \$ 100,000.00 grant. Mayor Birrittieri said the Village of Lakewood has three (3) months to submit qualifying projects to NYSERDA.

Mayor Birrittieri said she would like to commend members of the Zoning Board of Appeals for their service and hard work on the use variance request by Up State Tower and Blue Wireless. She noted this was an extremely complicated and arduous process, however with the skilled guidance of both Village Attorney John I. LaMancuso and Special Counsel Richard E. Stanton, along with Deputy Chairperson Myra V. Blasius, the ZBA followed the law, carefully followed proper procedure and arrived at a decision to deny the application. Many members of the ZBA spent countless hours reviewing volumes of documents

that were important to the application. Mayor Birrittieri said as many Village of Lakewood residents know, this decision was not arrived at lightly, however it was arrived at carefully. She said the Board of Trustees and the citizens of Lakewood are fortunate to have such dedicated servants in this community. Mayor Birrittieri said she just wanted to publically thank members of the Zoning Board of Appeals for their work on this difficult application.

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Department of Public Works Supervisor Thomas R. Pilling indicated he would like permission to sell a used/surplus snow blower to the Village of Panama for \$ 1,000.00. Mr. Pilling also reported that he has received an Online Auction Contract Agreement between the Village of Lakewood and Auction International, Inc., East Aurora, N.Y. for review by the Village Attorney.

Police Chief John R. Bentley reported the Lakewood-Busti Police Department has handled one thousand six hundred seventy-two reportable incidents year-to-date. Chief Bentley also reported over this past weekend the K-9 Unit assisted the Jamestown Police Department and that tomorrow, Miro the dog, will be recertified in his ability to locate explosives. Chief Bentley then distributed to the Mayor and members of the Board of Trustees, copies of the L-BPD Annual Report for 2016.

Mayor Birrittieri asked Chief Bentley if there are any potential fundraising efforts to support the L-BPD's K-9 Unit that could be looked into.

Chief Bentley said it would be nice if something could be done and warrants further discussion.

Village Treasurer Andrea J. Windoft indicated she would like approval from the Board of Trustees to create a new expense and revenue account for the Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corporation (CHRIC) funding in connection with the proposed home rehabilitation projects within the Village of Lakewood. It will allow the Treasurer's office to keep better track of the monies received and paid out.

Building Inspector Jeffrey A. Swanson reported that the Town of Busti and the Village of Lakewood were the first two political subdivisions, west of the Hudson River, to be declared Clean Energy Communities and therefore qualify for \$ 100,000.00 grants through NYSERDA. Mr. Swanson indicated there is likely going to be a media blitz in connection with the Town of Busti and Village of Lakewood being declared Clean Energy Communities. Mr. Swanson said it remains to be determined what qualifying projects will be selected within the next three (3) months and submitted to NYSERDA for their review. Mr. Swanson suggested that the Village of Lakewood choose a new point of contact for this project.

Changing subjects, Mr. Swanson indicated he is keeping very busy with current and upcoming projects along Rt. 394. Mr. Swanson then stated he received and had distributed the Village Hall Inspection Report, along with a few accompanying photos as prepared and submitted by Mr. Peter J. Radka, P.E., of Rock Hill Engineering, Panama, N.Y. Mr. Swanson said some of the shortcomings noted in the report are safety related violations and must be taken care of as soon as possible. The Village of Lakewood needs to protect those who protect them.

Building Committee Chairperson Trustee Barnes suggested that she and fellow committee member Trustee Drago, meet with Mr. Swanson to prioritize the problems noted in Mr. Radka's report and address accordingly.

Mr. Raymond Ayers, 124 East Terrace Ave., wished to thank Mr. Swanson for his efforts in garnering the NYSERDA grant money.

Trustee Barnes also wished to commend Building Inspector Swanson for all he has done in pushing the idea to participate in the NYSERDA grant application process for both the Town of Busti and the Village of Lakewood. He saw the value in it and ran with it. Trustee Barnes also wanted to update the Mayor and members of the Board of Trustees on the idea to switch over the street lighting district to LED lighting. Trustee Barnes is hopeful by the next meeting, she will have investment and cost savings estimates from National Grid concerning the switchover.

Mayor Birrittieri then introduced Ms. Elizabeth Gleason, of Tint Press, who had been invited to tonight's meeting to make a brief presentation to the Board of Trustees during the work session on some ideas and trends regarding web site design.

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While distributing proposal packets, Ms. Gleason said Tint Press has been in business for ten years and has extensive experience in designing web sites for various levels of government, including cities, township and villages. Ms. Gleason indicated her "report card" on the Village of Lakewood's current web site is adequate however there is room for some upgrades. The shortcomings with the current web site that jumped out at her are, it is somewhat dated, it isn't mobile device responsive and that there are some broken hypo-links.

Ms. Gleason said the packet includes a proposal and related cost estimates for the Mayor's and the Board of Trustees' review and comment.

Mayor Birrittieri thanked Ms. Gleason for her presentation as well as for her patience.

ANYONE TO BE HEARD

Mr. Bill Burk, who has been deeply involved with the fund raising efforts in connection with the development of the new baseball field currently under construction off Linwood Ave. appeared before Mayor Birrittieri and the Board of Trustees in search of information regarding access to the field turf which was installed last October. He and representatives from the Southwestern Area Sports are curious as to why access to the artificial turf portion of the baseball field is being denied by the Village of Lakewood and the Lakewood Fire Company, Inc. Mr. Burk said the artificial turf is in place and we would like to be able get our local athletes on the field to practice as soon as possible. Mr. Burk said with early spring like temperatures it would have been great to have been able to practice on the field today.

Mayor Birrittieri indicated one of the concerns the Village of Lakewood has is making sure there is adequate and appropriate insurance coverage on the artificial turf field. Plus being able to comply with the lease contract agreement between the Village of Lakewood and the Lakewood Fire Company, Inc.

in naming the Fire Company as an additional insured. Mayor Birrittieri then asked Village Attorney LaMancuso for his input.

Mr. LaMancuso said it is imperative that there is adequate insurance in place and that the Lakewood Fire Company is protected by having them listed as an additional insured on the Village of Lakewood's policy. The question becomes is the area safe for kids to play on.

D.P.W. Supervisor Thomas R. Pilling who has overseen construction of the baseball field to date indicated the field is still under construction and it is his opinion there are some safety issues that still need to be addressed before he would deem the field playable. Mr. Pilling said there is some misinformation out there stating the Lakewood Fire Company, Inc. will not let the public on the field, which isn't true. The Lakewood Fire Company, Inc. would like the field safe, before anyone is allowed to use it.

Mr. Burk asked what is the Village of Lakewood and the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. basing the field as unsafe on.

Mr. Brian Orlando, Safety Officer for Southwestern Area Sports, indicated there is some potential for injuries if a number of kids were playing on and around the newly installed turf field. He indicated what is needed to finish this wonderful field is the purchase and installation of fencing and a backstop. Estimated cost of \$ 50,000.00.

Trustee Barnes asked what is the status regarding the purchase and installation of the fencing. Is there any funding in place for it and/or are there any fund raising efforts on going or proposed.

Mayor Birrittieri indicated in speaking with Coach Burk, he implied there is funding in place for the purchase of the pitcher's mound. However, it has become critical to raise additional funding in order to purchase and install fencing and a backstop.

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Mayor Birrittieri said once completed this awesome baseball field will be a wonderful asset to the community. With everyone having a common goal to complete the field, let's get together, organize some fund raisers and get this thing done.

Mr. Jack Knowlton, President of the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. said because of false accusations, it seems like the fire company has been thrown under the bus a couple of times in the past few weeks. For the record, Mr. Knowlton indicated Mr. Burk has never contacted him to find out what is going on regarding the field.

Mr. Knowlton said Mr. Pilling and the D.P.W. crew has done an awesome job in preparing the area for the installation of the artificial turf field. On top of that Mr. Pilling and crew worked with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for over a year in mitigating the nearby wetland which was no easy task. Mr. Knowlton also wished to make it clear that the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. is an independent group and its membership owns the property on which most if not all the field will be located on. Back in 1993 a lease agreement between the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. and the Village of Lakewood was drafted regarding using the now baseball field property as a soccer field. In 1998 another lease agreement was drafted to make use of Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. property as a baseball field, which expires May 2018.

Mr. Knowlton said a new twenty year lease between the Village of Lakewood and the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. was recently drafted and submitted to Mayor Birrittieri and the Board of Trustees for their review and comment.

Mr. Knowlton said the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. and the Village of Lakewood have come a long way to get to this point and just because there has been some unseasonably warm weather lately, winter isn't over yet. To allow players to play or practice on the new turf field without first finishing the outfield and areas around home plate would be a mistake. Mr. Knowlton said he wanted to make it clear that the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. isn't against kids playing on the field. Having kids enjoy playing baseball is the reason why the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. agreed to allow the field to be constructed on its property. Mr. Knowlton went on to say the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. has let area soccer teams to practice on its former softball field near their clubhouse. So don't say the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. won't allow the public on the new baseball field. The membership of the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. support the kids 100%.

Mayor Birrittieri said unfortunately there was some miscommunication about use of the new turf field.

Mr. Knowlton said taking down the temporary snow fence now would be premature, adding a baseball field of this quality needs a fence and a backstop. Proper fencing will also prevent individuals from driving on and damaging the field. Mr. Knowlton said once the field is complete he would welcome kids to play on it. There is no need to rush to use the field.

Mr. Burk said some of the comments made by Mr. Knowlton need to be responded to.

Mayor Birrittieri indicated we need to define what complete is. Coaches are responsible and there should be a little give and take here regarding use of the field. They shouldn't have to wait until June to use the field.

Trustee Barnes said she would like to defer to those who have worked on the field, in particular the D.P.W. crew. She reminded everyone it is still February and asked everyone to be patient. As a compromise she suggested that the coaches and Southwestern Area Sports representatives come back in April to see if the weather and field conditions would allow a certain number of players to possibly practice on the new turf field. We all should be very grateful to the Marra family for their generosity, the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc., for donating the land and the Department of Public Works for all the work they've done to date.

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Mr. Burk said the challenge is there is no additional funding available at the present time and there isn't anything the highway department could do to get the field ready by April. Mr. Burk said in answer to one of Mr. Knowlton's early comments, there wasn't anything to contact him about. He said SWCS's baseball team went down and conducted a mini practice on the field because no one assumed there were any safety issues regarding the field. He said it is his opinion every coach here this evening would say they would have no problem taking their respective teams onto the turf field and conducting a safe practice.

The opinions that the field isn't safe were made by individuals that don't know anything about baseball. They don't coach baseball or run a regimented practice. No coach is going to allow his players outside the fenced-in turf field area. Mr. Burk said he can't understand why our young baseball players can not access a perfectly safe turf field, which presently, is the only dry field in the area. If the necessary funding isn't available we are missing opportunities for the kids to practice on a perfectly safe, dry turf field. If people disagree with me, that's fine. But, it shouldn't be up to the President of the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. to deem the field unsafe.

Mr. Orlando said there are probably some infield only drills that could be run safely on the field.

Mr. Jarred Brown, varsity baseball coach at SWCS indicated as coaches we are looking for permission to partake in supervised infield practice on the new turf field. We are not looking to conduct batting practice or utilize the areas outside the artificial turf infield. With the new field in place we have a great opportunity to give our players some outdoor practice when other fields aren't playable yet.

Mr. Dan Burns said he believes the field is designed for play by varsity and/or junior varsity players, so maybe it would be a good idea to put a minimum age on who may access the field, while still under construction.

Trustee Drago said if one allows one person to have access to the field, everyone should be able to have access. Where does one draw the line and/or how is access going to be regulated. .

Mr. Richard Rose, 42 Gifford Ave., said it is obvious the field is unfinished and there are questions about its safety. He asked if there are regulations or checklist in place in determining if a particular field of play is safe or not.

Mr. Burk said although the field has no fence or backstop younger kids could easily play T-Ball on the artificial turf area of the field.

Trustee Barnes asked Mr. Burk if there is a plan to purchase a fence and backstop.

Mr. Burk said the whole process to fund the field began with a generous donation from the Marra family, followed by a grant from the Sheldon Foundation, followed by additional funding from the Marra family. Because the funding arrived in pieces, it was thought the field would therefore be completed in pieces.

Mr. Burk said another piece of the process was recently received in the form of funding for a pitcher's mound. The pieces involving the outfield fence and backstop have not yet been put into place and doesn't know when that is going to happen. Mr. Burk said he has been responsible for raising over \$ 230,000.00 towards this project. Mr. Burk said his efforts to see this baseball field come to fruition has become part of his life. He visualized kids being able to utilize the field as pieces of the project were added over time.

Trustee McCague asked the Village Clerk if an insurance binder for the new turf field has been prepared and if the Village of Lakewood's insurance carrier is aware that the new baseball field is still under construction.

Village Clerk Johnson indicated to Trustee McCague the insurance carrier was provided the cost of the artificial turf field portion of the baseball field complex, which was added to the policy, and were advised that the baseball diamond remains under construction.

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Trustee McCague then asked the Village Clerk if the Village of Lakewood's insurance carrier would insure activities conducted on the unfinished baseball field.

Village Clerk Johnson indicated that particular question wasn't asked and therefore wasn't answered, but would gladly pose that question to the insurance carrier.

Mayor Birrittieri said while a lot of people with a vested interest in the new baseball field are present we need to put together a plan to purchase the fencing and the backstop.

Mr. Knowlton said this is the first he heard that varsity and junior varsity baseball teams from SWCS would be using the field. The Lakewood Fire Company, Inc. was under the impression that the field would be used by Babe Ruth, Little League and be an additional field where baseball tournaments could be held. Mr. Knowlton said he heard Southwestern Area Sports was going to be in charge of scheduling the use of the baseball field. If not them who is going to do the scheduling. Mr. Knowlton said this isn't what the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. signed on for when agreeing to the lease agreement. Mr. Knowlton noted the lease agreement indicates the Village of Lakewood shall pay a fee of \$ 1.00/year to the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. The Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. has yet to receive a single payment from the Village of Lakewood, thereby breaking the lease agreement. Mr. Knowlton then cautioned folks on becoming too demanding, because the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. is empowered to break the current lease via a written notice. Mr. Knowlton said that is the last thing he would like to see happen.

Mr. Burk interjected saying to Mr. Knowlton, what do you mean the last thing, you just threatened to break the lease agreement.

Mr. Knowlton retorted, saying Mr. Burk made some threats via some recent text messages. On a more positive note Mr. Knowlton indicated the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. has talked about the possibility of incurring the cost of the fencing to move the project forward and having the Southwestern Area Sports organization reimburse them for the cost of the fencing over time. Mr. Knowlton said it would be nice if the lines of communication concerning this project became open.

Mayor Birrittieri indicated that sometime things have to come to a head before appropriate actions are taken. Although somewhat uncomfortable, she is perfectly happy for this to happen right here right now. There are a lot of people, including herself, who are very passionate about this baseball field and want it completed. The Village of Lakewood needs to do the right thing adding it is imperative we all work together to make it happen. With tongue firmly planted in cheek, Mayor Birrittieri said she would be happy to write Mr. Knowlton a check for the outstanding lease agreement payments.

Mayor Birrittieri said she is of the opinion if an insurance binder is in place and the Village Attorney believes the Village of Lakewood and the

Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. would be covered for any possible claims, responsible coaches would be permitted to conduct limited supervised practices within the confines of the artificial turf field surface. Although a decision isn't necessary this evening this matter needs to be hashed out.

Dr. Jonathan Blasius, 19 Owana Way, said he has concerns about the baseball field being safe to play on and any potential liabilities the current condition of the field poses to the Village of Lakewood. D.P.W. Supervisor Pilling has indirectly put the Village of Lakewood on notice concerning the current condition of the unfinished baseball field. If someone were to get hurt the liability to the Village of Lakewood could be costly. Mr. Pilling, who has been involved in working on the field from the beginning, might be the reasonable person to determine if the field is safe to play on noting it might be safe for limited use. Dr. Blasius said although coaches are anxious to get out and conduct baseball practice on a dry field, he is worried about the potential liability the Village of Lakewood would have if someone were to get seriously injured.

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Mr. P.J. Wendel, 20 Hern Ave., indicated he has been a physical education teacher and a coach for over twenty years and during that time he has been involved in two law suits involving injured student athletes. Unfortunately if someone were to get hurt, a powerful law firm would likely get involved and it would be revealed that the athlete was injured on an unfinished baseball field, which would be a huge liability, Any potential hazards relating to an unfinished baseball is going to put the Village of Lakewood and its insurance carrier at risk.

Mayor Birrittieri asked, how do we raise \$ 30,000.00 to finish the project.

Ms. Jennifer Froah, co-president of Southwestern Area Sports, asked if anyone has received quotes for the fencing and backstop. Ms. Froah said the organization should be able to reach out to people for donations but it would be good to be able to show them some estimated cost figures. She said having a meeting with those groups interested in seeing the field completed is a great idea.

Mr. Pilling indicated he is in possession of a quote of \$ 29,000.00 for the fencing submitted by Warren Fence. It is his opinion that the field would be playable once the fencing is installed and the outfield is graded and seeded. Unfortunately it will take some time, but if the weather cooperates the field could be playable by the end of May.

Dr. Rudolph Mueller, 7 Sunset Ave., asked Mayor Birrittieri if any tax dollars have been spent on the construction of the new baseball field or has the Village of Lakewood provided any in-kind services. If so how much.

Mr. Pilling estimated the in-kind services provided at \$ 20,000.00

Mr. A. Jackson Smith, 15 Sunset Ave., said having heard a litany of things he can appreciate the safety aspect. Those directly involved with this wonderful project should understand what needs to done to make the field playable and suggested developing a prioritized list. Let's get it done and if there are still questions for the insurance carrier, let's ask them.

Mr. Knowlton said besides leasing its property to the Village of Lakewood for the field, the Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. has agreed to incur the cost of the baseball field's sign and flagpole. The Lakewood Fire Co., Inc. continues to be actively involved with this project and wants to see it completed.

Trustee McCague suggested an action plan needs to be put in motion, with the interested parties getting together and figuring out possible ways to finance the work that remains and report back to Mayor Birrittieri and the Board of Trustees. Let's all work together on this community project.

Mayor Birrittieri asked if the "main players" would be agreeable to meet and discuss a plan of action and report back on March 27th.

Village Attorney LaMancuso indicated until it is known for sure that the artificial turf field has been included on the Village of Lakewood's insurance policy he would suggest having NO TRESPASSING or KEEP OFF UNDER CONSTRUCTION signs posted

Village Attorney LaMancuso also suggested Southwestern Area Sports consider applying for, what is called, a Community Service Grant, through the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.

Chautauqua County Legislator P.J. Wendel said on a positive note, on behalf of Chautauqua County Legislature, the Chautauqua County Executive and the Regional Planning Solutions Committee, they were very excited and pleased to learn that the Town of Busti and the Village of Lakewood were declared Clean Energy Communities and thereby each has qualified for \$ 100,000.00 NYSERDA grants.

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Legislator Wendel said he recently spoke with Mr. George Spanos, Director of the Chautauqua County Department of Public Facilities about the condition of East Summit Street, (County Highway #110). Although the road was resurfaced only five years ago, he didn't have any explanation as to why the road surface has deteriorated to the degree it has.

Trustee McCague wanted to make Legislator Wendel aware of another joint venture the Village of Lakewood and the Town of Busti is involved with, namely the stormwater management study, which was made possible with a grant through Chautauqua County and the Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance.

Mr. Jeffrey K. Storrs, Sr., 31.5 Gerald Ave., indicated that earlier today he submitted a proposal to the Board of Trustees, asking for them to consider selling him two small parcels of Village of Lakewood owned land which abut his property at the above address, and are identified on the accompanying tax map excerpt.

Mayor Birrittieri indicated to Mr. Storrs that she and members of the Board of Trustees haven't had much time to review his request.

Trustee Barnes asked Mr. Storrs if he has had the property he is interested in surveyed yet.

Mr. Storrs said he would like to have feedback from the Board of Trustees on

his request before he moves forward.

Mayor Birrittieri asked Village Attorney LaMancuso what step would he suggest for the Village of Lakewood to take regarding Mr. Storrs' request.

Mr. LaMancuso said it would make sense to schedule a public hearing on this matter which would invite feedback on this request from adjacent property owners.

Mr. Storrs indicated that when the parcel of land which abuts his property to the east, which was also part of the former "subway" was transferred, he wasn't notified and therefore wasn't given that option.

Mayor Birrittieri suggested that the Board of Trustees conduct a public hearing so as to get some feedback from the neighbors of Mr. Storrs.

Trustee McCague indicated he agrees with Mayor Birrittieri, that the Board of Trustees conduct a public hearing in connection with Mr. Storrs' request.

RESOLUTION #30-2017 - AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF USED DPW EQUIPMENT

Motion by Trustee Barnes, seconded by Trustee McCague, authorizing D.P.W. Supervisor Thomas R. Pilling to sell a used snow blower to the Village of Panama, at a cost of \$ 1,000.00.

Adopted: 3 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Drago, McCague)

RESOLUTION #31-2017 - AUTHORIZE VILLAGE TREASURER TO CREATE TWO NEW ACCOUNTS

Motion by Trustee McCague, seconded by Trustee Barnes, authorizing Village Treasurer Andrea J. Windoft to create a new expense account and new revenue account to keep track of the money stream in connection with the Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corporation (CHRIC) program.

Adopted: 3 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Drago, McCague)

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RESOLUTION #32-2017 - SET TIME & DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Motion by Trustee Barnes, seconded by Trustee McCague, per the recommendation of Mayor Birrittieri, to set 6:50 PM, Monday, March 13, 2017, as the time and date for the Board of Trustees to conduct a public hearing regarding a request submitted by Mr. Jeffrey K. Storrs, Sr. for the Village of Lakewood to consider selling him two small parcels of land which abut his property known as 31.5 Gerald Ave.

Adopted: 3 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Drago, McCague)

4TH OF JULY SUMMERFEST DISCUSSION

Mayor Birrittieri indicated she received an e-mail from Zambelli Fireworks Mfg. Co., New Castle, PA asking if the Village of Lakewood would consider increasing its annual fireworks budget by \$ 1,000.00 to \$ 11,000.00, so as to keep the display put together for the 4th of July at the level of previous years.

Mayor Birrittieri indicated for last year's 4th of July - Summerfest the Village of Lakewood rented from Jamestown Awning, Jamestown, N.Y., a small tent and various accessories for the VIP area, plus a larger tent under which the featured band performed at a cost of \$ 770.00. To take advantage of a 10% discount on the rental costs for 2017, the items will need to be ordered by March 1st. It would be cost effective if the Board of Trustees will consider adopting a resolution this evening authorizing the Village of Lakewood to place an order for the two tents and any necessary accessories for this year's 4th of July Summerfest.

Trustee Barnes indicated the Village of Lakewood should not continue to front the expenses for the 4th of July Summerfest because it just isn't a good accounting practice.

Mayor Birrittieri said the issue at hand is, do we, as the Board of Trustees wish to take advantage of the 10% discount being offered by Jamestown Awning.

RESOLUTION #33-2017 - AUTHORIZE TENT & ACCESSORIES ORDER

Motion by Trustee McCague, seconded by Trustee Drago, authorizing Mayor Birrittieri to order one small (VIP) tent and a large tent under which the featured band will perform on the 4th of July, plus any necessary accessories at a cost not to exceed \$ 800.00. The materials are to be ordered from Jamestown Awning, Jamestown, N.Y., by March 1, 2017, in order to take advantage of a 10% discount.

Adopted: 3 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Drago, McCague)

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT DISCUSSION

Trustee McCague indicated that at the last meeting of the Board of Trustees he would be drafting an RFP (Request for Proposal) in connection with the preparation of an application for a Technical Assistance Grant and conducting a "Main Street Study" of Chautauqua Ave. Trustee McCague said he copied Mayor Birrittieri his fellow board members and Village Attorney LaMancuso with the draft RFP and at this point the Village of Lakewood is under no obligation. Mr. McCague said all he is asking is for the Board of Trustees to authorize the Village of Lakewood to advertise for proposals.

Village Attorney LaMancuso indicated to Trustee McCague he did have one question about the draft RFP. The Village of Lakewood would select a certain service provider to prepare a grant application in an attempt to obtain one of the "Main Street" grants on the Village's behalf. What if they prepare the grant request but the Village of Lakewood doesn't receive the funding. Would not the Village of Lakewood still be responsible for the cost for services rendered by the vendor who prepared the grant request?

Trustee McCague told Mr. LaMancuso he is correct in his assumption.

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Trustee Barnes asked Trustee McCague if any of the property owners along Chautauqua Ave. will have any input regarding the Technical Assistance Grant application process or the "Main Street Study".

Trustee McCague said what the Village of Lakewood is moving forward on with this evening's resolution is just the Technical Assistance Grant application. If successful the grant will provide funding to conduct the "Main Street Study" for Chautauqua Ave. Part of the study involves determining what kind of "buy-in" or participation is there from property owners along Chautauqua Ave. Trustee McCague said there is an initial 5% match or \$ 1,000.00 commitment from the Village of Lakewood, which could lead to a much larger grant, which wouldn't include a match from the municipality.

RESOLUTION #34-2017 - APPROVE RFP DRAFT & AUTHORIZE TO ADVERTISE

Motion by Trustee Barnes, seconded by Trustee Drago, to approve the draft Request for Proposal (RFP) as drafted by Trustee McCague in connection with the preparation of a Technical Assistance Grant application and conduct a "Main Street Study" of Chautauqua Ave., and to authorize the Village of Lakewood to advertise the RFP.

Adopted: 3 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Drago, McCague)

RESOLUTION #35-2017 - AUTHORIZE FIRE & EMS EXPO ATTENDANCE

Motion by Trustee Barnes, seconded by Trustee McCague, that the Board of Trustees acting as the Board of Fire Commissioners hereby authorize Fire Chief Kurt W. Hallberg to attend the Pittsburgh Fire & EMS Expo, to be held at the Monroeville Convention Center, March 4th & 5th. Chief Hallberg shall be reimbursed for any and all expenses incurred.

Adopted: 3 ayes, no nays (Barnes, Drago, McCague)

Motion by Trustee Barnes, seconded by Trustee Drago, and unanimously carried the Board adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Joseph M. Johnson
Village Clerk